

THE AUSTIN

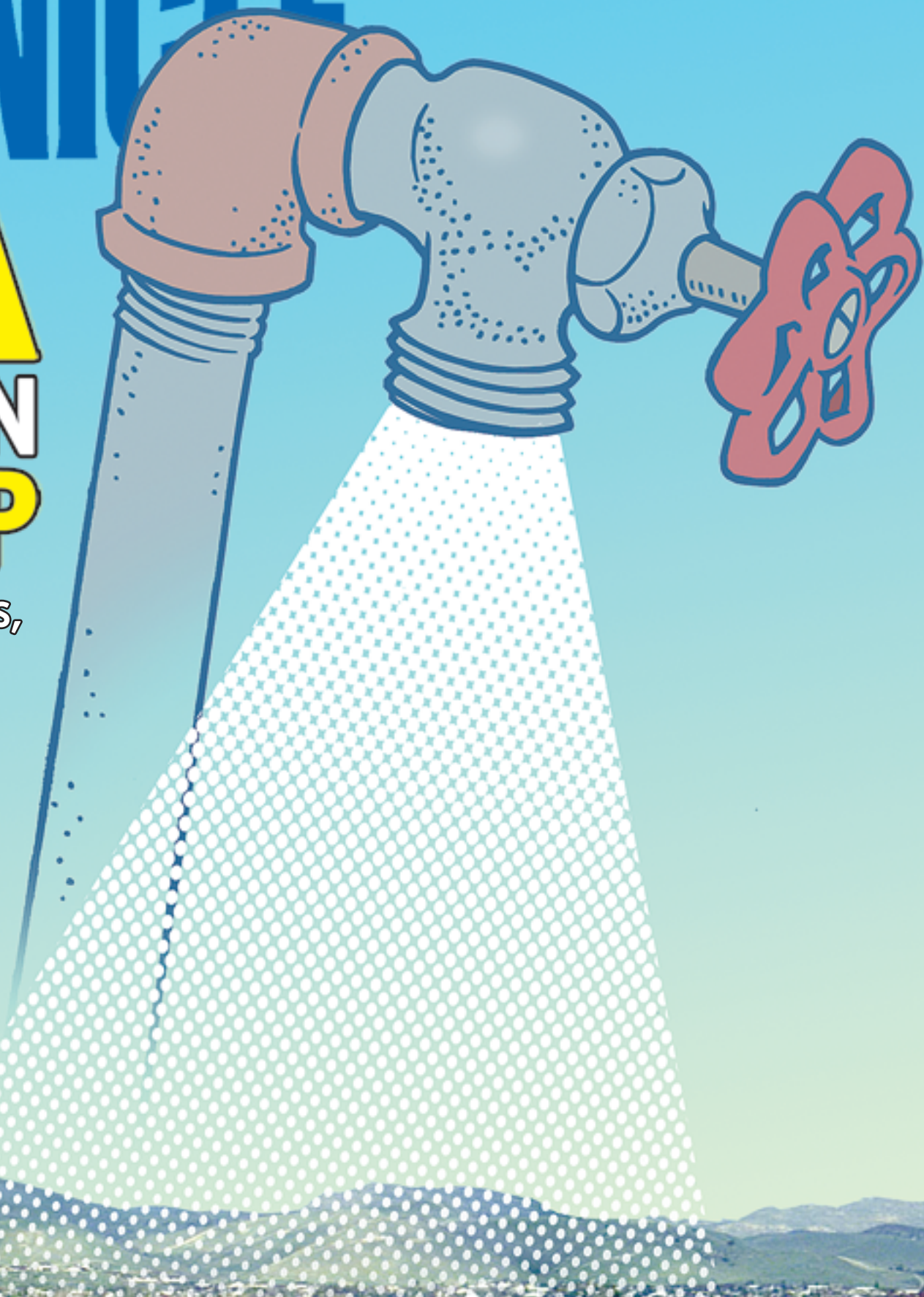
CHRONICLE

LCRA TURNS ON THE TAP

WHERE THE WATER FLOWS,
THE SUBURBS SPROUT
BY AMY SMITH P.32



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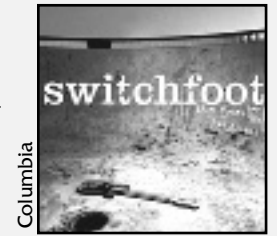
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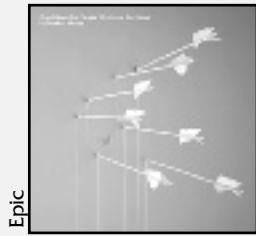
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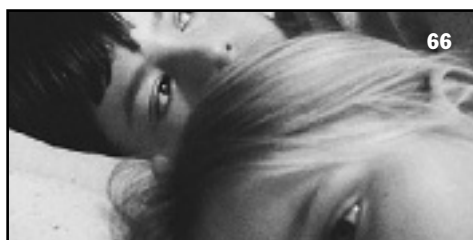
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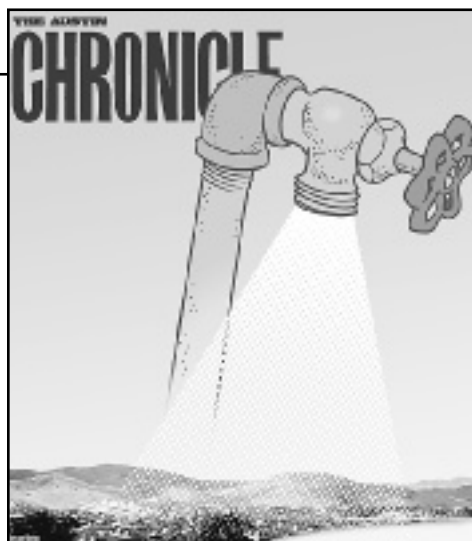
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<i>The Food staff bundles up the tastes of Austin for your gift-giving pleasure</i> Plus: 'Postmarks Online' forum, 'Soccer Watch' updates, 'Ask Mr. Smarty Pants,' and possibly more!

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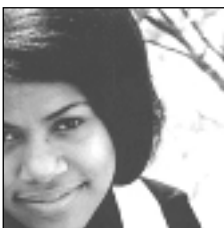
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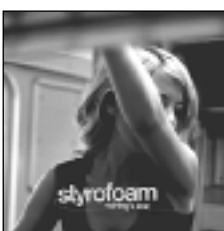
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various/DADDY G DJ KICKS (IK7)

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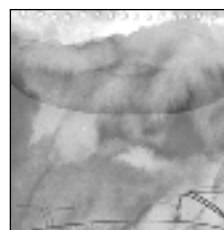
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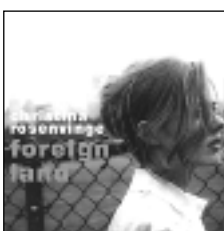
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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

WATERLOO

by Louis Black

A letter-writer in a recent issue of *The New York Times* wrote that he was happy the Republicans triumphed because, having proven to be such sore winners, imagine what they would have been like if they had lost.

Too often, the active right doesn't seem to get it: *They won*. Not only in the most recent election, but for most of the past decade, they've been politically dominant. They are the party in power. Agendas are not "being set" by them; they're established and acted upon. The right does not represent rebels just now entering the halls of power – oppressed outsiders too long lacking any voice in policy – as they like to portray themselves but, instead, the administering governmental power. Even accepting the ridiculous myth of liberal dominance of American media, culture, and politics (denying a reality dominated by a conservative/status quo/powers-that-be/business/economic class), they've long turned the tide. Yet, all too many partisans are still much more interested in attacking "liberals" than in advocating anything.

This allows them to assert their moral superiority, laying out just how much smarter and more realistic they are about the world, economics, social realities, and the American dream – not to mention more deeply religious and thus closer to God.

A letter to the *Chronicle* "observed, much to the bemusement of liberals, President Bush's unapologetic embrace of faith – which apparently has translated into his running of a 'Christian fundamentalist campaign.' Mr. Black, and others who think similarly, may never understand mainstream America's respect for a man of genuine faith over opportunistic appearances at black churches. He may never understand why mainstream America supports plainspoken honesty over eloquent pandering. He may never understand why mainstream America chooses steadfast resolve in national security issues over 'wet-finger-to-the-political-winds' internationalism. He may never understand why the average, middle-class American's desire to achieve the American dream is diametrically opposed to the left's constant insistence that success be punished by redistributing wealth."

This approach identifies most serious issues facing this country as the consequence of deliberate political activity. The most generous spin allows that these are perpetuated by unrealistic, easily manipulated bleeding hearts who don't understand real Americans. The harsher take brands them as anti-Christian, anti-American, immoral traitors determined to destroy this country. Neither interpretation allows for genuine policy differences or acknowledges the enormous complexity of many social problems. It's so much easier to blame liberals than to deal with the extraordinary difficulties facing our country.

A recent letter in the *Austin American-Statesman* noted, "Many of us have frequently confronted the ugly face of liberal

rage when they could not get their way. The viciousness of the left has been largely unreported in the biased media. ...

"The left wanted a new federal government that would give everyone the right to do whatever he or she pleases no matter how immoral or destructive their behavior. And liberals have an indomitable faith in the idea that taxing 'the rich' will enable the government to finance their every folly."

Consequently, loyal partisans need only attack liberals; they really don't have to defend Bush's appalling record except in the most abstract ways: The administration is standing up to terrorism, not afraid to flex American muscle or too foolishly concerned with what the rest of the world thinks of us; domestically, it is made up of morally guided, Christian believers who love God and the Constitution and who believe in the rights of the individual and the economic rewards to be reaped by not overly restricting initiative or unfairly taxing rewards.

Crucial to this point of view is defining things strictly in terms of opposition. Difficult times, social problems, international tensions, and consistently inefficient government persist not because society is inherently complex and constitutional democratic government awkward and unwieldy by nature. The issues are not social, political, economic, or cultural problems, the missteps in addressing them, or the monstrous difficulties of our living together in this country and on this planet. The problem is bad guys.

Thus in my case, these correspondents would argue, my differences with the current administration presumably have nothing to do with my deep, abiding love of this country. They do not represent a different philosophical approach and a passionate concern for my country, its people, the world, and the future. Disagreements aren't over principles, policies, diplomatic perceptions, ideology, and history. Instead – at best – I'm misguided, ignorant, and anti-American; at worst, I'm an openly subversive traitor pandering to foreign ideology and enemies.

This, of course, is nonsense. There are competing ideological visions, philosophical differences, conflicting assumptions, and different moral values among those who care about this country. These are not strictly defined by party loyalty but are much more diversely spread. The best government over time (not necessarily the best government at any given time) is achieved as the founding fathers envisioned: through debate, dialogue, cooperation, conflict, polemic, hostility, compromise, negotiation, disagreement, and, sometimes, strident political conflict. I am distressed by the current vicious, anti-democratic assault on the Democrats aimed more at eradicating the two-party system than at supporting any specific ideology. But I would be just as upset if the Democrats were doing the same to the Republicans. In the past, the parties were much more mixed in the range of

voices they represented. The left has long been as critical of Democrats as are Republicans. It's not about party. It is about what's best for the country.

Democrats have abused power as much as any politicians. Just because the right blindly champions the leaders of its political party, I'm not going to follow suit. It was nearly impossible to work up much enthusiasm for Tom Daschle, for example, except that the determination to defeat him was so partisan. The Democrats in power did crappy things, lots of them. Democratic party leaders are politicians – and politicians, after all, are an inherently compromised lot. In order to criticize the current administration, I will not be put in the position of having to or being thought to defend/support previous Democratic leaders or actions.

Unlike many – Democrats, liberals, leftists, etc. – I find demonizing Republicans contemptible. This doesn't mean I don't disagree with them, but I don't buy the argument that they are evil fascists, deliberately out to destroy this country. Most of us want to do what is best for this country but disagree over what that is and how to do it.

Just as passionately, however, I reject the right's demonization of its opposition. Dismissing, marginalizing, and disenfranchising those you disagree with is not just a lousy way to govern but is in direct contradiction to this country's Constitution. Attacking ideas, disputing policy, decrying legislation – in other words, battling over ideas – is not the same thing.

The next few columns will further explore the assertion that "Although idealistic, Democrats are the realists, and, although realistic, Republicans are the idealists."

"Idealism" might well be the wrong word. Ironically, the right, though denouncing secular humanism and moral relativism, insists that the world as they wish to see it is the world as it is. This view is formed more from political belief, religious faith, personal familial values, and perceptions of other communities, religions, societies, and people as it is from experience, history, precedent, or analysis.

Exploring this position will take time. Let's begin by laying out eight domestically oriented right-wing assumptions that are beyond idealistic in their disconnection to reality:

1) Government is a perversion, a distortion of nature, and not a reasoned response to problems that couldn't be and weren't being dealt with in any other way. In particular, social policies, welfare legislation, and government-supported health care, mental health care, job training, and education programs are illegitimately created, imposed on this country by Marxist liberals. The social safety net did not evolve over a long period of time as a series of considered attempts to deal with significant social problems by legislators of both parties. The federal government and its programs represent socialistic subversion that depends on stealing Americans' money through taxation, as well as being overwhelmingly unsuccessful.

A corollary is that if federal programs are abolished or, at least, severely trimmed, there will be minimal consequences. Any legitimate problems (of which there probably aren't that

continued on p.8

meet
Mystic



Mystic is a darling little girl with Shepherd ears and a Lab body. She was found soaking wet in a muddy pen with a tin roof with no food or water. Mystic is crate trained and has been through obedience classes with her foster mom. Mystic will probably weigh around 50 pounds as an adult.

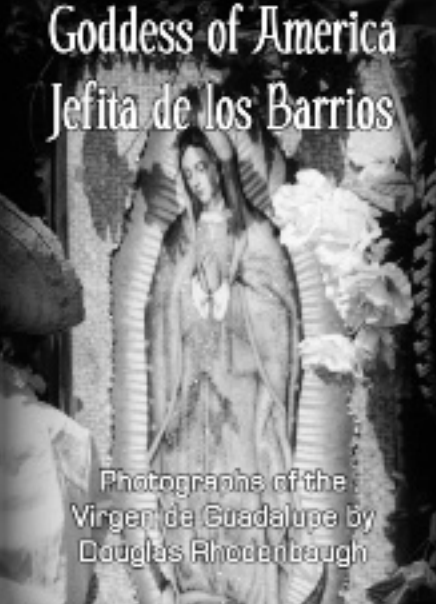
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many) will be handled by religious organizations, the free market, and the effort of concerned citizens.

2) Most of what the government does, and most of the money it spends (which is *our* money), does not have a positive impact on our community, our family, or us.

3) The programs that do aid us are the ones that the government obviously should be running, and should not be cut.

4) Government services and efficiency need to be improved. This can be done easily by cutting fat.

5) Many people are leeches on the government. Bloodsuckers, they are living off the money the government steals from us. This robs them of their self-respect and will to succeed.

6) Bush's tax cuts were substantial for all Americans. The very richest got the largest cuts because they pay the most taxes. The money they save will be pumped into the economy, which will continue to grow at a rate that will compensate for any budget deficits.

7) It doesn't matter how large the national debt gets. (Before Reagan and Bush II, this one was anathema to "conservatives." Times change.)

8) The constitutionally mandated separation of church and state has been invented or exaggerated by atheists, secular humanists, activist judges, and proponents of the gay agenda, to the detriment of American society.

The November election did offer a mandate – not in Bush's margin, but in the overall Republican victories. But a mandate for what? Some would have us believe it is for national strength, safety, individual freedom, and moral values. But, as with their fundamentalist Muslim brethren, much of the right's overall bitch is not with specific policies and issues, but the modern world. The future is unknown and unknowable. The past is easy to romanticize. There is a mandate, but a pathetic one, based on dreams more than realities, delusions more than practicalities, embracing a vision of a past that never was and proposing a future that is unachievable. Unfortunately, this is a journey that we are all going to be on, and it isn't going to be pretty. ■

POSTMARKS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

Children Left Behind

Dear Editor,

As an attorney and the editor of a national journal on No Child Left Behind, I wanted to alert you to an error in the Nov. 26 article by Rachel Proctor May ["Will AISD Crack Down on Special Ed?," News]. Ms. May reports, "Adding an extra layer of concern is the fact that the federal No Child Left Behind Act allows only 1% of a school's students to be tested below grade level, no matter how many special-ed students the school has." Actually, the 1% limitation applies at the *district* and *state* levels – not at the school level. The U.S. Department of Education specifically recognized that schools often have special programs that would cause them to break through the 1% ceiling. And even at the district and state levels, administrators can apply for a waiver to deal with specific circumstances. (For more, please see Vol. 68, No. 236 of the Federal Register, Dec. 9, 2003, p. 68,699-68,700.)

That's not to say that complying with the 1% limit is easy, especially since the Education Department isn't being generous with waivers. A big concern is the number of so-called "gap kids" – kids who aren't so cognitively disabled that they qualify for out-of-level assessments, but who nevertheless don't have much hope of meeting grade-level standards. No one's sure how many of these students are out there. And disabilities

organizations are split on what to do. For every advocate who thinks that it's regressive to suggest that "gap kids" can't meet ordinary standards, there's another who argues with equal passion that it's cruel to consign students to repeated failure. Because of this split, I'm not holding out much hope that this issue will get resolved anytime soon.

Overall, an excellent article.

Sincerely,
Christian P. Johnson, editor
No Child Left Behind Compliance Insider
Brownstone Publishers
New York, N.Y.

Bus Service Needed

Dear Editor,

Austinites may debate the effectiveness of Capital Metro, but one service is universally popular: fast, convenient service between ABIA and downtown.

I have been working to add a large downtown hotel map for the airport bus stop. This additional improvement would help everyone. Especially those on a limited budget and during events like SXSW.

The map is not installed yet, and there is bad news. The airport wants to move its bus stop to an isolated end of the terminal. This will remove its visibility from baggage claim and diminish its effectiveness. The goal is for more people to drive cars and use the airport parking lots (generating more revenue).

The route can easily take 200 cars off the road daily. More would be added by keeping a prime location and posting a proper map. Moving the bus sends the wrong message from city bureaucrats claiming to encourage mass transportation.

Jerry Balaka

A Shame

Dear Editor,

For the second year in a row, Stephen Moser has snubbed one of the most important fashion/DIY shows in Austin – the Stitch Fashion Show and Craft Bizarre. This year's show (at Emo's, Nov. 14) featured 20-plus local clothing and accessory designers on the runway and had more than 60 designers and crafters set up with merchandise booths, displaying and selling their diverse goods. Not just a good time, which it very much was, the show and craft fair were meant to showcase local talent. And the proceeds went to charity! It is a shame he would miss the opportunity to witness and write about such an event. If Stephen Moser really is going to cover the local fashion scene, perhaps he could do a little less useless name-dropping and get out and actually see what is going on. Almost 1,000 people attended this event, if that means anything in terms of popularity (which I imagine speaks to Mr. Moser's criteria of cool), and I certainly suggest he get in touch with someone who was there to find out what he missed. While out gallivanting in Houston, he missed a chance to write about a revolution in his own back yard. A shame really.

Scott Pierce
[Stephen Moser replies: I apologize for not being able to meet Stitch's expectations of what my column should be about.]

continued on p.10




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Name Left Out

Dear editor of the *Chronicle*,

I am glad to contact you regarding the article entitled "Food-o-File" published on Nov. 19 in the Food section and written by Virginia B. Wood. I was one of the participants in the annual Outdoor Paella Cook-Off held in Ms. Kely Christman's back yard. I was basically the master chef cooking the paella with D. Wizelman and A. Aoki which won runner-up in the People's Choice category. I have had no chance to contact Virginia B. Wood from the *Chronicle* to find out what went wrong. Two days ago I was asked by Ms. Christman for my last name to be included in the article. So, I was kind of surprised and disappointed when I found out that my name was not published in the article. I am sure it was just a mistake, and I hope you can do something about it.

Karina B. Falbo

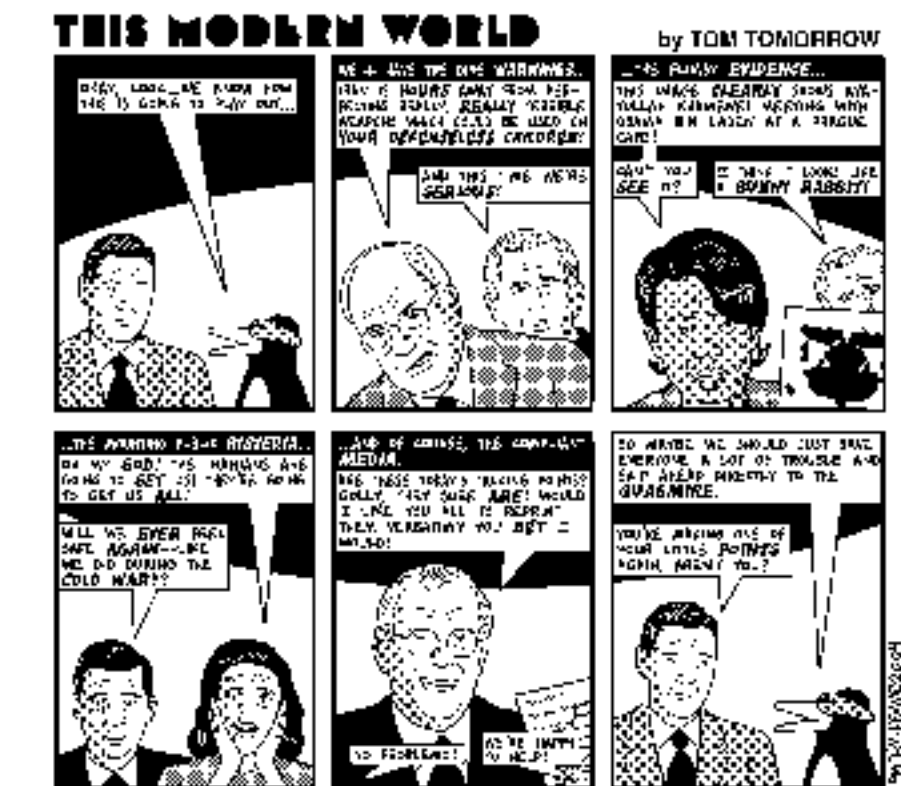
[Virginia B. Wood replies: Because the party was on a Saturday night after my regular column deadline, the piece got put together in a hurry on Monday morning before the last possible deadline. Many of the names (with multiple different spellings) dribbled in over a period of days, and I didn't get Karina's name until after the piece had gone to press. It was an accident that I certainly regret and will correct in this week's "Food-o-File."]

Reality Check: 'Chronicle' Perfidy

Dear Editor,

Michael Ventura asks ["Letters @ 3am," Nov. 26]: "Do we just write off nearly 3 million Texans? Do we just forget nearly half a million Mississippians?"

Yes and yes. Just keep on ignoring the elephant in the living room. Rally the weak-kneed, spineless liberal masses with pep talks! Screw the numbers (like fundamentalist evangelicals make up 40% of the electorate) and dig the rhetoric that pre-emptive compromise is "inclusive." Progressive thinkers should believe in a restrictively bipartisan pseudo-



democratic process created to appease slaveholding aristocrats under the misleading banner of "states' rights." Progressives should adopt the faith-based "logic" of theocrats who will lead us to the New World Order Rapture!

Giving further weight to my answers to your questions, check the fact-based journalism of this fine publication, wherein my last comment on your rancorous political ramblings clearly showed that "Ventura, I'm Better Educated and Informed Than

You, So Why Aren't You Listening to Me!" ["Postmarks Online," Oct. 11]. Evidently, the heading writer doesn't know the correct punctuation with which to end a sentence. Apparently, the important thing is to mock loyal readers who challenge the gospel of *Chronicle* columnists. And this journalist did it well – fallaciously, but well. Given equal access, I'm sure I could rip him a new one, too. Perfidiously, the "Postmarks" editor even denied my request for the print edition!

Well, we certainly don't want to shed light on the processes and voting methods that make a mockery of our so-called democracy, do we? There is no elephant in the living room. Rah! Rah! Nader equals Bush (perfidy!). Not Democrat equals bad (probably evil, but maybe just stupid). Go, Dem team, go! Wave really, really big pom-poms next time!

Anyway, thanks for asking, rhetorically or not. If you ever get around to a reality checkup, you might note that the electoral process itself answers your questions. Republicans know that.

Rod Sanders

Protest LCRA's New Pipeline

Dear Editor,

The Lower Colorado River Authority is poised to approve a huge water pipeline that will provide vastly more water for the Hamilton Pool Road region than would be allowed by SOS standards, the working model for regional development of environmentally sensitive land in Central Texas. A regional planning process, funded by LCRA itself along with other stakeholders, has been meeting for more than a year to come to consensus about how this part of Central Texas can be developed without destroying the aquifer that feeds our earth and the communities that are gathered here. This process will have completed its recommendations in six months. To end-run this process is tantamount to giving a huge grant to a few landowners and corporations who want to slip their deals in before regulations are put in place. LCRA doesn't have to make a decision on Dec. 7. They can choose to abide by the counsel of the regional plan, a project they in part initiated.

To make this point I recommend that everyone who reads this show up to protest the LCRA plan to approve a new water pipeline without giving regional planning groups time to get their recommendations finalized! Bring your friends and family: Thursday, Dec. 2, at 5pm on Lake Austin Boulevard in front of LCRA offices (where City Council meets), 3700 Lake Austin Blvd.

Susan Bright

continued on p.12

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You Gotta Have Art

Dear Editor,

How fortunate we are in Austin to have a writer and illustrator who can capture the essence of a critical situation so clearly as does Robert Faires in "No Art Left Behind" [Arts, Nov. 26]. Thank you for discussing the urgency for everyone to lobby the Lege and contact our colleagues in favor of keeping the arts a vital part of the Texas curriculum in public schools and in supporting the current textbook adoption for music and visual-art textbook materials. Faires points out that by logging onto www.goarts.org we can build a collective voice to affect critical decisions currently on the table at the state level. You gotta have art!

Robyn Montana Turner

It's About Music

Margaret Moser,

Thank you so very much for taking the time to really listen and review Mina Mauldin's debut, *Superspychoticqueen* (WGP Records) ["Texas Platters," Music, Nov. 19]. And though I truly believe and adhere to your belief that "music is about substance, not skin," it is unfortunate that the industry

thinks otherwise. It's about looks, visibility, and numbers, and I sure wish more people thought like you. If Usher takes off his shirt one more time ...

Thanks again,
Lonnie Trevino Jr.

Leaving the Country Is Patriotic

Dear Editor,

(Re: "Sunshine (Ex)-Patriots No Loss," by Sean Wardwell ["Postmarks," Nov. 26].) Sean Wardwell's outrage over my exercising the option of expatriation grows out of his captivity in the conceptual box called patriotism, a euphemistic term for nationalism. This supposed virtue cost the world 100 million premature deaths in the 20th century, mostly citizens of the Soviet Union. If nationalism prevails, that figure will likely be dwarfed in the 21st. Polls consistently show that most of the world's citizens do not find it very difficult to discern whose nationalistic ambitions are most threatening at this point. Ironical that Sean quotes Tom Paine, who was born and lived to adulthood in Britain and returned there shortly after the Revolution. Paine would never have returned to the U.S. except that his brilliantly seditious writings caused him to be chased from both Britain and France. Bounced from French prison by Monroe, he died in New York, an exile in obscurity, condemned for his alleged excessive radicalism.

American history is like that – the sanitized version and what really happened. As for cowardice, Sean, I've got a thousand that says my FBI file is bigger than yours.

Adios muchacho,
David Hamilton

Kinks Korrection

Dear Editor,

In comparing the staying power of U2 versus other veteran bands ["Into the Heart," Music, Nov. 26], Christopher Gray widely missed the mark with one band on his MIA list: the Kinks. While he's right that the Sex Pistols, Led Zeppelin, and possibly even the Clash (who disbanded three years after U2 was formed) "were long gone" by the time U2 was on the rise, it should be noted that the Kinks were together continuously from 1964 to 1996. (If my math is correct, that's at least *seven years longer* than U2 has been around!) Furthermore, when U2 was still teething back in the early 1980s, the Kinks were filling large arenas and had two of their biggest hits in "Come Dancing" and "Destroyer." Don't misunderstand me – I agree that U2 is a very vital and important band (just ask Bono!) – but they are not the only ones whose music has lasting value. In fact, while they have many fine songs in their repertoire, should U2 ever craft something as intensely

and hauntingly beautiful as "Waterloo Sunset" or as genre-defining as "You Really Got Me," then I really will sit up and take proper notice, longevity notwithstanding.

Christopher Owens

Does 1930s Germany = USA?

Dear Editor,

Although I sympathize with Sean Wardwell's distaste for the disappointed Kerry voters ruminating about becoming expats ["Postmarks," Nov. 26], I would ask him if Albert Einstein and others who left Germany in the 1930s were lacking courage and patriotic fervor. The big question will be, if the U.S. continues on its present path, will the U.S. be reformable from within or will outside forces compel the U.S. to change? The German people embraced a tolerant liberal democracy after it was imposed from outside. Would Germany have developed such a government on its own, through its own political processes, had it won World War II? Whether the U.S. is in a similar position today is the big question that one must ask before deciding to leave this country. No empire has ever lasted forever. The present U.S. empire will be no different. What we don't know is how and when the empire will fall.

Tom Cuddy

continued on p.15



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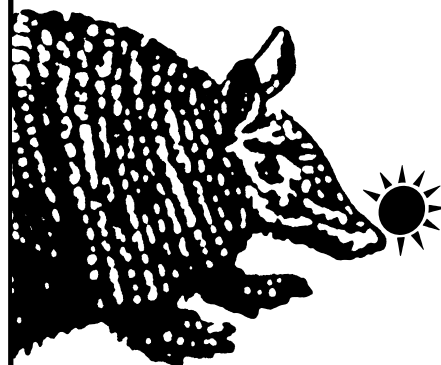
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Clinton Impeachment

Dear Editor,

I hate to disappoint the gentleman that wrote the recent letter about the Republicans being adult enough to impeach Clinton ["Postmarks Online," Nov. 22]. You had a conservative Congress out on a witch hunt to hang the president instead of doing the jobs that we elected them to do. Who was doing Dick Arney's (and the rest of those guys') work while they were spending day and night pursuing the president? This is not an adult act. It's called a mean agenda perpetrated by the party that happens to be in power in Congress. If the Democrats had the majority right now, believe me, impeachment proceedings would have already begun against Bush for the Iraq debacle and wild-goose chase for WMD he and his guys knew were probably not there. This is also an agenda, especially since three independent weapons-inspection panels have come to the same conclusion. There were none and have not been any since 1991. They could even be facing war-crimes hearings. Clinton was impeached and he lied. Bush lied and people are dying by the thousands. Also another minor fact that this gentleman got wrong is this: In 1992 Clinton received 43% of the vote, Bush 37.7%, and Perot 19%. In 1996 Clinton 50%, Dole 42%, and Perot 8%. In 2000 Gore won the popular vote. His statements are misleading about Clinton's popular percent of the vote because he virtually stomped the Republican candidates and they were the only real competition. Until this year the Republicans have not won the popular vote since 1988. That's 16 years ago. I guess that it was about time for the American voter to go brain-dead again, and we did it this year.

Allen Cunningham
Wimberley

Doing Evil in Our Names

Dear Mr. Black,

OK, I admit that you and Mr. Ventura have the right idea. We have to talk calmly and persuasively with all the Bush voters to try to educate them and wean them away

from politics as a "school spirit," my-team-vs.-your-theme type activity. A few of them may even be capable of reasoned enlightenment, maybe even critical analysis in rare cases. But I still can't get over a visceral reaction of rage at the "W 04" bumper stickers. The moment W. signed Gonzales' finding depriving prisoners of their rights under the Geneva Convention, he was confirmed as a war criminal. If he knowingly sent our brave troops to Iraq under false pretenses, he is a murderer. And 94 million votes for Bush constitutes 94 million accessories to his crimes. Four more years is way too long for these people to be doing evil in my and your names.

John M. Williams

Sharing a Sermon

Dear Editor,

I liked Michael Ventura's Nov. 12 piece ["Letters @ 3am"]; think he/you would like the sermon I delivered on Nov. 7 titled "Living Under Fascism." Can't attach it here, but it's available on our church Web site: www.austinnu.org.

The Rev. Davidson Loehr
First Unitarian Universalist Church of Austin

Labels Control Mainstream Music

Dear Editor,

OK, I'm sure almost everyone knows about the lawsuits with the RIAA and stuff. What people don't know is that the lawsuits destroy the family; most of the people who download are minors, and their parents don't even know. These people that download are known by the major labels as *pirates*. The record companies tell us that music *pirates* are stealing songs online, but that version of the story ignores reality and blindly parrots Hollywood spin. The reality: When you pay \$16 for a CD, the musician gets about \$1 – if they're lucky. Many major-label artists get nothing at all. So it's like you working hard for months on end and then you get what? Nothing at all, plus what you do get you share with the other people in the band.

The major labels have been scamming musicians for decades, so their claim that file-sharing hurts artists

continued on p.16



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rings hollow. These companies' real worry is that the Internet makes them unnecessary.

The "Big 5" major labels pay radio stations to play their songs (and only their songs). Payola, once a scandal, is now standard practice, and the Big 5 use their control of radio playlists to force terrible contracts on musicians.

Thanks for taking the time to read this. If you would like to find out more, visit www.downhillbat.tle.org. It's an absolutely awesome site. Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Joy Colwell
Georgetown

Beware Low-Water Crossings

Dear Editor,

Every time it rains a few inches, some misguided moron tries to drive through a low-water crossing. Sometimes they make it. When they don't, the lucky ones are rescued, which risks the lives of EMS and water-rescue personnel. The unlucky ones get swept away and drown.

How long is it going to take the people responsible for all the low-water crossings in this area to realize that roads that were adequate for horses and Model T Fords are not acceptable for motorists in the 21st century?

Visitors are always amused at the sight of high-water "rulers" at low-water crossings. They are also dumb-founded by my lack of a reasonable explanation as to why there aren't bridges. Maybe it is to keep people from moving to areas that are routinely cut off from the rest of the world (kind of like not building roads to discourage development). If that's the reason, it's not working.

This situation is similar to the dangerous intersection that finally gets traffic lights after numerous fatalities. How many more people will be swept away before bridges replace these "quaint" 19th-century low-water crossings?

Thomas McCormick
Dripping Springs

Abstinence Doesn't Work

Dear Editor,

This summer I became involved with several groups that formed to combat the Texas Board of Education and their premise of inserting into Texas school textbooks the idea that abstinence is the best form of birth control. My point is that it has never worked in the past and will not succeed in the future. On Sunday, Nov. 28, the *Dallas Morning News* ran a front-page story about a pregnant teenage mother of four and how mismanaged her life is. If only the DMN were required reading by the State Board of Education! Try to have a good day.

Respectfully,
Ed Devitt
Mesquite

Believing

Dear Editor,

I made an attempt to tackle the behemoth of spin-tainted rhetoric that is Richard Stovall's letter (enough *Crossfire*, Rich) ["Postmarks," Nov. 19]. Alas, there aren't enough reams of paper in existence to address the contradictions in his little screed. Stovall seems to feel exalted in his labyrinthine hypocrisy! Here's the deal: I want an open letter from Austin Republicans containing a list of all the Democratic politicians (read: not movie makers, comedians, or pundits, etc.) who have made degrading remarks about Christians. If Stovall feels so righteous in his post-election glory (even though his guy lost) then it must be because Kerry made some kind of scathing anti-Christian remark. What's that you're all shouting? Oh — he didn't? Then what does Stovall mean? Where are the manifestations of the degradation of Christians anyway? I see a Christian slant in teaching evolution and creation in public schools, gay relationships deemed illegitimate due to religious institutions, Bush cutting off funding to foreign clinics which provide birth control, and Ashcroft covering up works of art that display breasts (gasp!) and might offend the delicate sensibilities of his Bible brethren. So, if I don't weep for the Christians in this country,

perhaps you'll do as your god would dictate and forgive me. Don't believe the Republican propaganda machine. Bush and Rove energized their base and we didn't, period. It's time to ante up, friends. Don't think for one moment that you're going to win the next election by metamorphosing into a diluted version of Republicans. Let's pause and remember our roots and see how they can be instrumental in political strategy. Let's be Democrats again! Don't fret, we're in a unique position to take, not only the high road, but also that which will lead us toward the finish line with resolve and integrity.

Open eyes beget open minds beget open hearts,
Teighlor Malina Darr

Bush Is His Own Worst Enemy

Dear Editor,

Disregard the fact that there seems to have been massive election fraud going on to get George Jr. "re-elected" (that should be a joke to everyone). What's important to note is why people voted for Bush.

I had been traveling just weeks before the election and have been talking with people in three states (Calif., Wash., and Texas). It seems to me that the reason many people were voting for Bush was not because they liked him. I heard reasons such as, "Well, he got us into this mess. He's the only one who can get us out." Or, "Let's wait and see if the economy turns around; otherwise I'll lose faith." The truth is that in my estimation, at least 10% of the public that voted for him are holding his feet to the fire to see if he does anything productive.

He is arguably the most hated man on the planet at this moment in time. The majority of the Muslims despise him for his role in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Democrats (the majority of the registered U.S. voting population) are repulsed by him. The Libertarians hate him as a whole due to his support of the PATRIOT Act, and their numbers are growing rapidly. In fact, many more people are waking up to the fact that this current administration was probably instrumental in allowing 9/11 to take place as a justification to invade Iraq (remember this was planned before 9/11, according to W.'s own staff).

I believe all George Bush has to do is to act as he regularly does to be his own worst enemy. He will bring down the Republican Party by getting caught in his lies, push the moderate Republicans from their comfort zone way to the right. And he will have no one to blame, since both houses of Congress are loaded in his favor. He will either alienate the Christian right or people will wake up to how evil they can be by the administration promoting their draconian agenda.

So don't worry about W. He's going to bring himself and the Republicans down.

Sincerely,
Giovanni Angello

Kill or Be Killed

Dear Editor,

The Marine in Iraq that killed the "wounded insurgent" or enemy a few weeks ago did exactly what he was trained to do. As far as I can find out he did not violate any code of ethics or rules of war. The enemy was not trying to surrender, so the Marine's actions were correct. I can relate to what he did because I spent a year in Korea in 1951 and was wounded two times on the battlefield. My friend would probably be alive today if he had not waited too long to act. He was killed by a North Korean civilian woman when she infiltrated our observation post.

I think what has to be done is to eliminate the video cameras on the battlefield, because they don't tell the complete story. Let our military heroes fight the war the best way they know how. You have got to kill the enemy before they kill you!

Gary A. Schutz
USMC veteran

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NAKED CITY

edited by Mike Clark-Madison

Headlines

- **Quote of the Week:** "The Court declares that the State's school finance system is financially **inefficient, inadequate, and unsuitable**, in violation of Article VII, section 1 of the Texas Constitution because the school finance system fails to recognize or cover the costs of meeting the constitutional mandate of adequacy, or the Legislature's statutory definition of a comprehensive adequate program." – Presiding Judge John K. Dietz, in his final judgment in the *West Orange Cove Consolidated ISD et al. v. Neeley* school finance lawsuit.
- On Tuesday, Judge John Dietz issued his final judgment and findings of fact in the **school finance lawsuit** against the state of Texas, reconfirming his decision in favor of the school district plaintiffs. The state will appeal.
- There are now *three* state **House Republican challenges** of their November election defeats, as District 50 incumbent Jack Stick joined District 35's Eric Opiela and District 149's Talmadge Heflin in saying they'll appeal directly to the Texas House to overturn their losses at the polls. See "Capitol Chronicle," p.20.
- A recount in District 48's state House race confirmed the re-election of Republican **Todd Baxter** in his bitter combat with Democratic newcomer Kelly White. White declined to join the latest in Christmas GOP fashions of election challenges ...
- In a local disaster of international proportions, at press time the **UT Longhorns** remain ranked slightly behind the University of California Golden Bears – meaning no BCS bowl once again. Holding out against public diatribes and e-mail death threats, local sportswriter **Kirk Bohls** echoes that judgment, proving there are still a few *cojones* left at the *Statesman*. Can he transfer to the editorial page?

Austin Stories

- The biggest dish on the City Council menu this week is the public hearing and action on the **Mueller** master development agreement with Catellus Austin. The 1,000-page doc (available at www.cityofaustin.org/mueller/mda) has turned into seven different agenda items to, among other things, execute the MDA, adopt its (ambitious) affordable-housing and minority-business directives, and create a tax-increment district to support the \$46 million in public financing (over 10 years) envisioned for the new life of the old airport. Mueller's new zoning, and by extension its design guidelines, were adopted earlier this year; the deal with Catellus has been under negotiation for more than two years, and observers expect the council to act quickly and with little dissent. – M.C.M.
- Also on the City Council agenda: Ratifying the new collective bargaining agreement with the **Austin Association of Professional Firefighters**, approved overwhelmingly by the union last week; considering for final approval the overhaul of the city **historic preservation ordinance** and – though not at the same time – 17 backlogged historic-zoning cases; further wrangling with the latest upzoning controversies over the **Champion Tract** at RM 222 and Loop 360; and completing the formalities for the new **East Sixth Street Public Improvement District**. – M.C.M.
- Attendees at a public hearing on an AISD proposal to start the 2005 **school year a week early** spoke overwhelmingly in favor of the move. The plan would have the school year running from Aug. 16 to May 24, rather than follow the state norm of Aug. 23 to June 1. Opponents cited concerns that the early-start calendar resulted in too many vacation days sprinkled throughout the year, thus creating a hardship on working parents. Those in favor said that starting a week early would give the district a leg up

continued on p.21

DOUG POTTER



"THE GOOD NEWS, MR. DELAY, IS THAT THERE'S NO INFECTION. THE BAD NEWS IS THAT YOU APPEAR TO HAVE RONNIE EARLE STUCK IN YOUR CRAW."

NEWS

INSIDE ...
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THE JOB DESCRIPTION

WHY SANE PEOPLE DON'T RUN FOR CITY COUNCIL BY MIKE CLARK-MADISON

Okay, let me be clear here: I'm not saying that sane people *never* run for City Council. Clearly they do, and usually they win. I can say without reservation that nobody on the current City Council is not sane. The point is, rather, that a lot of sane people *don't* run for council, and they have their reasons.

Of whom do I speak? Well, for one, me. And my friend and colleague, *Chronicle* den mother Susan Moffat. And my friend Jim Walker, the hardest working man in show business. There are, of course, others; I single the three of us out because our membership in the Future Council Club has often been discussed in my hearing and in public places, and because our main reasons for recoiling from the thought ultimately have little to do with the usual barriers to public service, like the cost and energy involved in running, or the close scrutiny and lack of privacy to which we subject officeholders.

Rather, we all, to various degrees, see an insurmountable gap between the council member's job description, or lack of one, and the traits and qualities that have made us civic boldfaced names. It does seem a little weird that pragmatic progressives, not given to rootless ideological posturing, with a command of the details and a fondness (or weakness) for getting our hands dirty, would find Austin City Hall to be not such a great venue. But so it is. And it's worth thinking about as we enter the Longest Council Campaign Ever and scrutinize the Daring Dozen who hope to break in the new City Hall.

Big Time vs. Small Town

I'm not suggesting here that Susan or Jim or I would be such great council candidates; we could all easily get our asses kicked if we decided to run, particularly in the current field. But I am suggesting that we represent a political demographic that, in fact, may also include many in the current field. What we, as an electorate in a time of transition, need to decide, and then convey, is what we want these people to do, and if we indeed want to let them do what they're good at.

As I sermonized two weeks ago, I think the de facto Biz vs. Green two-party system that has prevailed in Austin for decades is just about played out; we have a communitywide consensus in support of both economic prosperity and environmental protection that, though not perfect, is a damn sight stronger than existed when I started this gig. We still, however, need to work on equity, the wobbly leg of our three-legged stool, and I still would like to see this election be about, to use a dirty word, *class*. I don't think it's an accident that people whose fire is lit most brightly by equity issues – like affordable housing, or libraries and education, or a living wage – are willing to let their membership lapse in the Future Council Club. Speaking for myself, I'd like to see a little more action and a little less talk on regional equity issues from City Hall before I'd feel comfortable taking up space there.

But even beyond that, I'd like to see our current notion of "accountability" evolve a bit. What it has

continued on p.20



AUSTIN
AT LARGE

SORE WINNERS

THE GOP SEEMS DETERMINED TO MAKE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT A GAME OF 'WINNER-TAKE-ALL' BY MICHAEL KING

The new Republican order promises to be entertaining, in a morbid sort of way. Last week the U.S. Senate leadership was once again discussing the "nuclear option" in order to impose all of President Bush's federal judicial appointments on the country, instead of just 95% of them (203 have been confirmed, 10 have been blocked by Democratic filibusters). Determined to demonstrate that a 55-member majority equals unilateral power, they say they'll move simply to alter the rules on Senate debate, effectively abolishing the minority filibuster for voting on judges.

The week before, it was the House's turn to change the rules of the game in favor of the winners. Concerned by the possibility that Sugar Land's finest, Majority Leader Tom DeLay, might find himself under indictment in Travis Co., the House GOP caucus amended the rule requiring that a House member under indictment must step down from a leadership position until the matter is resolved. Now, should the grand jury's hammer fall on The Hammer, his colleagues will decide whether the indictment merits a public federal humiliation. Their Eminences shouldn't worry; humiliation will arrive regardless.

Closer to home, last week two defeated GOP state House candidates decided that Texas voters, otherwise so generous to Republicans, couldn't possibly have meant it when they rejected these two fine upstanding wannabes – even after recounts confirmed the voters' initial decision. One is Eric Opiela, a rookie barely out of UT Law School but with heavyweight Austin backing, who is challenging the election of Yvonne Gonzalez Toureilles in District 35, near Corpus Christi. The other is more formidable: Houston's Talmadge Heflin, a 22-year incumbent and budget chair who lost to Democratic newcomer Hubert Vo in the District 149 race by just 32 votes. Both men say they will come to the House in January – where, not incidentally, the Republicans will hold an 87-63 majority, even without them – and ask their would-be colleagues to overturn the results and either seat them outright or order new elections.

Finally, this week our own local poor sport, District 50's Jack Stick, who lost to Democratic challenger Mark Strama, announced that he will be holding his breath until he turns blue, too. (San Antonio District 117 incumbent Ken Mercer, who lost narrowly to Democratic challenger David Leibowitz, considered but declined a challenge – deciding sensibly that such an action would be bad for his district.)

One or two such exercises in political overreaching might be considered a coincidence. But when coupled with the current style of Republicanism first perfected by Newt Gingrich – give no quarter and take no prisoners – it begins to look like a pattern.

Take Your Positions

That's not to say the co-religionists of the Losers Brigade in the House will automatically rubber-stamp the challenges. Judging from the initial Capitol reactions, the Republican leadership is not terribly eager to take up the cause, although at least in procedural terms they have no choice – the Speaker must appoint an investigating committee that will call witnesses and send a report to the full House. The House can seat either candidate or order a new election. According to the *San Antonio Express-News*, there have been 10 such challenges since the Forties, and only once did the House not seat the apparent winner, instead ordering a new election that amply confirmed the results of the first.

Certainly the challenges, however they proceed, will present a lingering public relations minefield for the GOP, although the last two years have shown that the elephants bear image problems with remarkable equanimity. Simply installing Heflin, Opiela – and now Stick – would take considerable chutzpah. But it may also have occurred to party strategists that with three challenges pending, it may be possible to finesse at least one of them, perhaps letting two youthful stalking horses fall on their swords for the sake of The Venerable Heflin.

The Democrats, on the other hand, wasted no time seizing the rhetorical high ground. "Nothing will disrupt the House more than a contentious, partisan election challenge at the beginning of session," declared House Dem caucus Chair Jim Dunnam. Houston Rep. Garnet Coleman pointed out that the Heflin and Opiela challenges seemed preoccupied with minority voters, and he decried "the cynical attempt to associate people of color with election fraud."

Let's Try Democracy

In that vein, it's additionally illuminating to see GOP super-lawyer Andy Taylor, hired gun for the Texas Association of Business against Ronnie Earle, who also argued successfully (at taxpayers' considerable expense) that Republican re-district-



This week our own local poor sport, District 50's Jack Stick, who lost to Democratic challenger Mark Strama, announced that he will be holding his breath until he turns blue, too.

ing would not unduly (or at least illegally) disenfranchise state minority voters, now representing Talmadge Heflin in his attempt to overturn the first Texas House election to be won by a Vietnamese-American. The *Houston Chronicle*, which had endorsed Heflin, brooded grimly about the consequences to the GOP of Heflin's hubris. But Texas politicians – a historical category that includes plenty of Democrats – long accustomed to having their bread buttered by an otherwise oblivious majority, have never lost much sleep worrying over the consequences of their actions to minority voters.

As the state's demographics change (we are repeatedly informed), that too shall change. Maybe. In the meantime, whatever the outcome of the challenges, we will have to be entertained by the curious details of Texas voting practices certain to be revealed by a formal House investigation. Definitely something to look forward to. Perhaps one day a republic so delighted to lecture the Ukraine, and Venezuela, and the Palestinians, and Iraq, etc., etc., etc., on the salutary virtues of "democracy," will find a way to consistently import those virtues to what should be the signature celebration of its form of government, and is instead so often an embarrassment of incompetence, negligence, discrimination, and fraud. ■



CAPITOL CHRONICLE

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meant in practice is that every council member needs to care about everything all the time, which is a good way to turn the City Council into the political small-claims court that it too often is. Various commonsense strategies for improving city government – single-member districts, streamlining the baroque city code, empowering neighborhoods, or boards and commissions – have all foundered amid resistance to giving up the God-given pleasure and prerogative of Taking It to the Council. Again speaking for myself, there's a lot of small stuff that gets sweat way too hard at City Hall for my taste.

Future Present

Even without those improvements, it's still often easier to get stuff done on the outside. Ask Susan Moffat, whose Liveable City and Full Circle cohorts basically rewrote the city's big-box study into something that makes

sense. Or ask Jim Walker, who over his decade of work on the Mueller project has done more than almost anyone to create a new model for Austin decision-making. It took a long time and a lot of work, but he couldn't have done it from behind the dais. At least not now.

Various commonsense strategies for improving city government have all foundered amid resistance to giving up the God-given pleasure and prerogative of Taking It to the Council.

Witness the current travails of young Brewster McCracken, who is the very model of a modern council member. It's widely accepted CW now that McCracken has completely alienated his base, whoever that was, by tacking this way and that to the wrong side of the big issues. Maybe so, or

maybe that's the old paradigm talking. For a rookie, McCracken will run for re-election – assuming he does – with a rather large portfolio of initiatives and accomplishments that he owns outright. Sure, this did not happen by accident, and it hasn't made

him friends along the way. But I can think of worse ways to build a new base than by actually doing something.

That's not to say the other council members don't do anything; indeed, my esteem for Jackie Goodman and Raul Alvarez has much to do with the fact that they've done

more than just sit there and Represent the Base. But they and the other council members – even Betty Dunkerley – were elected primarily to Represent, and it's that dynamic that I hope will *not* determine the results of the May elections. We need a council that is more than a board of directors, with ownership seats for different constituencies, if we indeed want it to be more than the sum of its parts.

I don't want, or expect, that the next council members will ride into office mumbling Kerry-esque homilies to their Plans. But I do think we need something more than the admirable qualities of their persons to be deployed on the city's behalf. Indeed, that's how we've effectively come to define the less-than-sane people who run for council – they're people for whom running for and holding office are about Being, rather than Doing. And that won't do. ■

on state-scheduled TAKS tests. Trustees will not finalize a calendar until January.
— Rachel Proctor May

► Council Member Brewster McCracken's yearlong effort to create **commercial design standards** for Austin is nearly done; a final discussion draft of the proposed standards was presented this week to the stakeholders group that's been wrangling with the issue, with action by the Planning Commission and City Council expected early next year. The proposed standards deal not only with retail aesthetics but, more substantially, with major site-plan issues like parking and traffic, storm water management, signage, and permitted land uses, and openly aim to make urban mixed-use development the preferred Austin option. If adopted as proposed, the standards would require a fundamental rewrite of much of the city's Land Development Code — starting from the premise that site-development standards should be linked not to the base zoning, as they are now, but to the nature of the road on which the project sits. In addition, the standards include a point-system matrix, with positive points for good features and negative points for bad ones; all developments would have to earn a minimum score to even see the light of day at One Texas Center.
— M.C.M.

► Suddenly, from out of the blue, state Rep. **Jack Stick** has decided to challenge his 569-vote loss to Mark Strama in the Nov. 2 election. In a five-page petition faxed to the secretary of state on Thanksgiving Day, Stick charged that Travis Co. election officials had failed to provide data that would determine any voting irregularities in District 50. But Stick apparently never asked for any such info from the county, and his allegation that election officials "are having difficulty reconciling voter information" has thrown County Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir for a loop. "Neither I nor my office have received a request, either verbal or written, from Mr. Stick or his campaign, or anyone claiming to be acting on his behalf," she said. Stick's action has county Democratic Party Chair Chris Elliott pondering filing a challenge of his own against the lame duck Republican. "I'm so infuriated by this baseless accusation," said Elliott, "that I am seriously considering filing an ethics complaint." He said Stick's charges amount to blatantly false attacks on the county election system, elected officials, and Strama. Elliott contrasted Stick's post-election behavior with that of Democrat Kelly White, who lost by 147 votes to state Rep. Todd Baxter in District 48. White followed a very methodical process of requesting a recount, which this week confirmed the result. White has chosen not to challenge the outcome. "It's a stark difference in how she approached this and how [Stick] has approached this," Elliott said.
— Amy Smith

► **Schlotsky's Inc.** is getting gussied up for a shotgun wedding next week, as the bankrupt sandwich maker moves from the chopping block to the auction block. Bids starting at \$25 million are due by noon Monday, with the auction to be held Tuesday in the Dallas law offices of Haynes and Boone LLP. On Wednesday, U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Leif Clark will consider the "highest and best" bidder at a hearing. The deadline for closing the sale is Dec. 31. The new owner will be able to operate the Schlotsky's brand, its company restaurants and franchise system — starting with a clean slate, without the millions in debt. "We hope to soon have a strong financial owner or owners that will enable us to grow again, provide jobs for our employees, and better serve our franchisees — essentially, to have a new lease on life," said CEO Sam Coats. It's likely that neither ousted CEO John Wooley nor unsecured creditors and shareholders will receive any proceeds from the sale. Wooley has argued against selling the company for what he suspects will be well below its \$41 million value when it filed for bankruptcy.
— A.S.

► "Que viva el barrio!" Thus quoth Frances Martinez of Barrio Unido before donning a hard hat and hefting a gold-plated shovel of dirt to ceremonially break ground for the **Villas on Sixth** "apartment home" development. The project will transform a raggedy patch of vacant Eastside real estate into a housing and retail complex where 85% of the 160 apartment units are "affordable." Also joining in the shovel-hefting fun were city council members Raul Alvarez, Danny Thomas, and Betty Dunkerley, state Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos, and other neighborhood and real estate leaders.
— R.R.M.

Beyond City Limits

► The 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has declined to review its decision to overturn the capital conviction of **Max Alexander Soffar**, meaning the Harris Co. District Attorney's Office will have to retry him or set him free. In April, a three-judge panel of the appellate court

overturned Soffar's conviction for a 1981 triple murder in a Houston bowling alley, ruling that Soffar received ineffective assistance from his trial attorney — the infamous, now-deceased Sleeping Lawyer, Joe Cannon — and that decision has now been upheld by the full court. The state has 90 days to decide whether to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.
— Jordan Smith

► Although the number of **civil rights complaints** received by the U.S. Department of Justice has remained steady — about 12,000 annually — federal enforcement action on those complaints has steadily declined under the Bush Administration, reports the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University. In its Nov. 22 report, TRAC notes that while civil-rights enforcement actions have been rare under all recent presidents, it has "sharply declined" under Bush the Younger. In fiscal 1999, federal prosecutors filed criminal civil rights charges against 159 defendants; by FY 2003 that number had dropped to 84. Referrals for prosecution by federal investigators likewise declined by nearly 50% from 1994 to 2003. And the number of civil cases (involving such issues as housing discrimination or voting-rights violations) has also dropped steadily under Bush — from 740 in 2001 to 576 in 2003. For more info, go to www.trac.syr.edu/tracreports/civright/106.
— J.S.

► The "Spirit of Garberville," a 1969 school bus emblazoned with anti-war slogans carrying Veterans for Peace Chapter 22, stopped in Austin last week for dinner at the Rhizome Collective, en route back to California, carrying the vets on their 7,000-mile speaking and demonstration tour to and from Fort Benning, Ga., the military training facility formerly known as the **School of the Americas**. Driver Gordon Soderberg, a navy corpsman who served in Beirut, recounted the long list of atrocities attributed to the school's grads — especially in Central and South America — and noted the inclusion of torture techniques in the curriculum that eventually found their way to the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq. There were about 15,000 demonstrators at the annual protest this year (Nov. 20-21), and Soderberg said he knew of only 24 arrests for nonviolent action. Crowd-control measures were less severe than in previous years, he said, but protesters did encounter significant blockading and occasional loud broadcasts of laws governing protests. More info at www.soaw.org or www.veteransforpeace.org.
— Daniel Mottola

► As Texans battle for more clean energy mandates, a recent action by the federal government may undermine state energy decisions. "In a behind-closed-doors move during recent budget negotiations, language was inserted into the massive appropriations bill (HR 4818) stating that the **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** can pre-empt states on the permitting and siting of liquefied natural gas facilities, thereby overriding the ability of states and local communities to have control over installation projects," said Public Citizen's Tyson Slocum. There are currently six onshore and six more offshore LNG facilities in the proposal phase for Texas, according to the FERC Web site. The facilities create concerns about safety and increased dependence on OPEC nations, from which the LNG is imported. Recently, Slocum said, the Rhode Island attorney general issued a letter to his state delegation expressing concerns about the inclusion of the language and its effect on the state's own LNG future.
— D.M.

Happenings

► Thursday through Saturday, Dec. 2-4, is "**Remember Bhopal Week**," marking the 20th anniversary of the Union Carbide chemical factory disaster in India. Events on the UT campus are sponsored by Amnesty International and the Association for India's Development, and include: Dec. 2, a 7pm candlelight vigil at the MLK statue on the East Mall; Dec. 3, 10am-5pm, Bhopal Awareness Day on the West Mall; and Dec. 4, a 7pm showing of the documentary *The Search for Justice* in room 4.102 of Robert Lee Moore Hall (26th and Speedway). For more info, call 422-7169 or go to www.aidaustin.org.

► The film **WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception** by media critic Danny Schechter plays at Dobie Theatre Friday-Thursday, Dec. 3-9. The *Chicago Reader* calls the film "a comprehensive and devastating critique of the TV news networks' complacency and complicity in the war on Iraq." Check our film listings or call 472-FILM for show times.

► On Wednesday, Dec. 8, at 7:30pm, David Solnit, editor of *Globalize Liberation: How to Uproot the System and Build a Better World*, will be in Austin as part of the **North American Globalize Liberation Roadshow**. The road show is traveling across the country, doing public events, popular education theatre, skills workshops, media interviews, and support for local organizing. Solnit will appear at MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop. For more info, call 407-6925.



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WILL THE WATER FLOW AT NORTHRIDGE?!?

Someone has kidnapped **Kenneth Snyder** and replaced him with a pod person. What other explanation could there be for the effusive thanks to county leaders from the Commissioners Court's one-time nemesis on Tuesday morning?

Snyder has a long history with Travis County, and most of it hasn't been good. Week after week for more than two years, Snyder was the one who came to county leaders to talk about **Northridge Acres**. Stuck between Austin and Round Rock (and Travis and Williamson counties), the ragtag subdivision lost its water well in 1999 and was forced to use a hook-up to its fire hydrant for a water supply. The local water corporation, never quite a going concern, was eventually forced into receivership. Water rates skyrocketed, and because of needed repairs the water quality was not always the best.

Located only a block from Round Rock's picture-perfect **La Frontera** development, Northridge was a collection of modest homes with water service that was sporadic, at best. Snyder called it a *colonia*, and railed against county and city leaders on a regular basis. Nothing satisfied him. A grant from the Texas Water Development Board for wastewater service failed to take hold in Northridge Acres and had to be returned to the state agency. Angry and frustrated, residents filed lawsuits against one another.



JANA BIRCHUM

Snyder brought photographs, a video, and even access-TV producer/freelance agitator Mike Hanson to court.

But there was Snyder on Tuesday morning, trying to give county leaders advice on what will soon be, finally, a \$1.3 million water line project in his subdivision. If all goes well, water should be running by January 2006. "I know you're doing every-

thing you can on this project," Snyder told the commissioners. "I just don't think it's gonna cost us \$1 million."

What's happened to Northridge Acres has happened under the radar. **Dan Smith**, aide to County Judge **Sam Biscoe**, intervened in the Northridge Acres conflict, taking on the role of project manager. He got the residents to drop their lawsuits against

one another and the city of Austin to agree to provide water service if the county could get the water lines fixed. He got Williamson Co. to agree to put up \$150,000 toward the project and Travis Co. to provide \$167,000 in in-kind services.

Most importantly, the state passed legislation to address areas like Northridge Acres. In September, the **Texas Water Development Board** approved \$1.3 million in assistance to the Northridge Water Supply Corp., consisting of a \$1 million grant from the Small Community Hardship Program and a \$334,000 loan from the TWDB's Rural Water Assistance Fund to construct water lines, install hydrants, and add new water meters. Smith is still looking for a final \$250,000 to cover the loan.

Previous grants didn't work because they didn't really address the needs of Northridge Acres, Smith said. They addressed wastewater when the subdivision really needed water service. They required manpower "sweat equity," but Northridge Acres' residents are elderly. Still, Smith said, Travis Co. was committed to fixing the problem. "Just because there's not a program that fits their needs doesn't mean you give up," Smith said. "It was our job to work with those agencies to come up with a program that did work. We promised Northridge Acres we would get out there and help them if we got this through the Legislature."

— Kimberly Reeves

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE'S BEST ON

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Raich vaporizing cannabis in the hospital, August 2003



Medi-Mari at Supreme Court

Lawyers for two seriously ill **medical marijuana** patients argued before the U.S. Supreme Court on Nov. 29 that the federal government is banned from regulating their intrastate use of the drug in accordance with California state law. At issue in the case, **Ashcroft v. Raich**, is whether the federal government can use its authority under the Commerce Clause of the U.S. Constitution to regulate the use of medi-pot by patients in states that have legalized the practice.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, marijuana is an illegal substance under the Controlled Substances Act, a law enforced under the Constitution's authority for federal regulation of interstate commerce. That's what the feds say they were doing back in 2002, when they seized pot plants used by **Angel McCleary Raich** and **Diane Monson**. But Raich and Monson (along with two John Doe caregivers named in the lawsuit) argue that the feds overstepped their powers by interfering with medical marijuana use conducted in

compliance with California's Compassionate Use law, enacted by citizen initiative in 1996. Importantly, they argue, the marijuana plants in question were grown *inside* California, and no money was exchanged for the dope. Thus, no "interstate" commerce transpired, and federal intervention went beyond the government's constitutional scope.

Raich suffers from an inoperable brain tumor, among other conditions, and doctors say that her medical use of marijuana — allowing her to control pain and regain her appetite — has helped keep her alive; Monson suffers from crippling back spasms and, like Raich, did not respond to conventional therapies. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco agreed with the two women's legal argument, a decision that was appealed by the DOJ to the Supreme Court. On Nov. 2, Montana became the 10th state to legalize medical marijuana use; none of these laws are currently recognized as valid by the feds. A decision in the case is expected in the spring. We'll have more coverage next week. — Jordan Smith



APD's Crack Crackdown

Austin's drug cops have had a busy couple of weeks busting downtown crack dealers and Honduran distributors. On Nov. 19, the APD announced that a two-month undercover drug investigation — catchily code-named **Operation C'Ya Later** — targeting two blocks of Neches Street between Fifth and Seventh, resulted in 25 street-level dealers being charged with 28 drug-related offenses. Most of the offenses are state jail felonies — but for 21 unlucky defendants those charges will be enhanced to third- or second-degree felonies because the drug deliveries took place within a designated Drug Free Zone. (Under Texas law, a DFZ is within 1,000 feet of a school, school district property, or youth center; or within 300 feet of a video arcade or public swimming pool.)

Op C'Ya Later was undertaken by APD, with assistance from the Travis Co. district attor-

ney's office, at the behest of complaining downtown business owners. According to an APD press release, the department believes the undercover operation will "result in a decrease in criminal activity in this area," and the department vows to "remain vigilant in its effort to combat drug dealing."

Indeed, on Nov. 23, APD announced another major narco bust, resulting in the arrest of 17 Honduran citizens who the department alleges were involved in a complex drug ring. Police seized approximately 4 lbs. of pot, a pound of methamphetamine, 5 oz. of crack, and 8 grams of powdered cocaine. Additionally, APD officers arrested three people in connection with 148 lbs. of pot, just under 2 lbs. of cocaine, 2 grams of meth, plus a 9mm rifle, a .45-caliber pistol, and a sawed-off shotgun found in two apartments on Manor Road. — Jordan Smith

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THE DEPOT COMES TO THE DISTRICT — HAT IN HAND

Most folks don't run for school board expecting to review economic development packages — or at least they haven't in more economically innocent times. But that's what the **Austin ISD** board of trustees (somewhat reluctantly) did Monday night, as district consultants presented to the board a \$5.7 million tax incentive package for a **Home Depot** research and development center predicted by its supporters to bring 500 jobs to the Austin economy.

However, the board's predicament is somewhat bass-ackwards, at least according to traditional understandings of the term "incentive." Home Depot has *already* decided to locate the 500-job data center in Austin — four months ago. But when Home Depot officials made the announcement, they said that they fully expected AISD to "take care of" them. At the time, the city, county, and state had already taken care of the company in the form of \$25 million in incentives. But exploiting a 2001 state law designed to encourage school districts to grant additional incentives, Home Depot in August applied for further goodies — an abatement of its local property taxes, the main source of funds for the public schools. The trustees must now "decide" whether to approve Home Depot's application by Dec. 13.

In other words, as Jimi Hendrix might have put it: "Scuse us while we kiss this butt."

But as explained by **Jon Hockenyo**s of Texas Perspectives Inc., who AISD hired to study the plan's economic impact, that's simply the way business works these days: If Austin doesn't offer the best package, the jobs will go elsewhere. "It's a tough world out there, and a tough game," Hockenyo told the board. "A lot of people are playing, and they're playing hard." In this context, Hockenyo said, Austin's long-term economic prospects depend on "sending a message" that Austin is "open for business."

In other words, folks, get used to puckering up. But while the long-term impact of the incentive game may be negative, the immediate impact of this particular deal is a gain for AISD. First, Home Depot comes to the table bearing flowers and chocolates in the form of about \$1.2 million in contributions: \$425,000 of phone and computer networking equipment, two paid student internships, two "playscapes" valued at around \$100,000 each, and much, much more! (That is, as AISD's general counsel Mel Waxler explained, "The Home Depot and AISD will continue to have conversations on ways to expand [these] benefits.")

But more importantly, the state will effectively reimburse AISD for any revenue it loses due to Home Depot's property tax break. Here's how: The abatement package reduces the taxable value of the Home Depot data center for 10 years, from about \$170 million to about \$130 million. After the 10 years, the property will return to the rolls at its full value. But in the meantime, AISD will get a credit, equal to the lost tax revenue, toward its payments into the redistributive state school finance system, known colloquially as **Robin Hood**.



JOHN ANDERSON

IN OTHER WORDS, AS JIMI HENDRIX MIGHT HAVE PUT IT: "SCUSE US WHILE WE KISS THIS BUTT."

Of course, as anyone following school finance knows, this whole plan has a pretty major hole in it: The Legislature wants to overhaul Robin Hood as soon as they come up with something better to replace it. However, the plan on the table takes this into account: If the school finance system changes in such a way that AISD will no longer be reimbursed, Home Depot itself will reimburse the district. "That's as firm and solid an agreement to protect the district against harm as we could think of," said **Kevin O'Hanlon**, an attorney who helped AISD put together the deal.

But while the plan protects AISD, it doesn't necessarily protect Texans. If the state reimburses AISD for the taxes it doesn't collect, that money has to come from somewhere. Trustee **Patricia Whiteside** on Monday expressed concern that the plan could hurt other districts by reducing the overall school finance pool. The consultants assured her the state would make up the lost revenue; but even if that dubious assurance proves true, the money still has to come from somewhere else in the none-too-flush state budget. And there's the larger question of the long-term impacts of an "open for business" sign, and whether greater and

greater giveaways will be required to lure and keep companies in town. That is, those who live by the incentive can also die by the incentive, when another city or state can offer a little bit more.

That makes development incentives an uncertain bargain some trustees say they don't like being asked to make. Trustee **John Fitzpatrick** said he thought the decision was probably outside of the "core competencies" of the board and complained that trustees had only been given a copy of the package for the first time last week. Whiteside agreed that economic development is "a distraction" from the board's real business. But although she still wants more info on how the deal will affect the state budget, she's convinced that the deal, at the very least, won't harm AISD.

"I want to feel comfortable that students in other parts of Texas aren't suffering because we're not collecting taxes," she said. "But at this point I am comfortable that our district will not suffer because of this."

The board will hold a public hearing on the deal on Dec. 6 at 8:15pm at the Carruth Administration Center, 1111 W. Sixth.

— Rachel Proctor May

news

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AI SD REDESIGN: GRAZING AND GAZING

AI SD's second forum on its planned high school "redesign" drew about 100 teachers and administrators to **Austin High** Tuesday night, where they broke into small groups to discuss ideas for better transitions from middle to high school, smaller learning communities, better career education, and having students choose a "major."

The event also drew a handful of students from Bowie High, who were earning extra credit in their politics class for the effort. Among them was **Raul Perez**, a dapper fellow with Elvis-esque sideburns, who made himself at home in the front row of a discussion of how to instill more rigor in the curriculum. The group was skeptical about many ideas, such as requiring four years of college-prep math ("We'd have to extend high school to eight years," said Austin High math teacher **Mary Austin**), and asking 14- and 15-year-olds to pick a major. "You can't just push students like cattle into a chute," said Perez. "You have to let them graze."

At times, the mostly cheery discussion got a little tense, such as when Austin and

Perez agreed that "revising language arts" should mean more grammar and vocabulary drills, rather than simply reading literature. "If you don't develop a reading habit, you won't develop a vocabulary," answered former English teacher **Everett Lunning**, looking downright horrified. The principal leading the group defused the moment by sharing a story about a sitcom where one of the young characters had an extensive vocabulary that included "propinquity" and "superfluous." "I thought, 'How great would it be if all our kids knew those words?'" he said dreamily.

Lanier counselor **Deloise Vasquez** suggested that one problem was teachers' showing too many movies. "Just because you read *Hamlet* doesn't mean you have to watch the movie," she said. Perez announced he had just watched *Hamlet* in his class, and that he found it useful. "But I know what you mean," he conceded. "Sometimes it's just ... superfluous."

AI SD will hold another round of discussions in February. — Rachel Proctor May

THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE DISTRICT

Been wondering what **AI SD** has been doing with its \$731 million budget, or what the district has planned for its \$500 million in new bond money? Wonder no more: Get yourself a copy of "**I Am AI SD**," the colorful annual report the district released last week. Brimming with facts, figures, and bullet lists detailing the district's accomplishments in test scores, the arts, citizenship, safety, and facilities, "I Am AI SD" includes what Superintendent **Pat Forgiione** described as "every type of relevant data in a clear and concise format."

More or less, anyway. Like any annual report, "I Am AI SD" plays up the district's strengths while putting a positive spin on its weaknesses. For example, in the "Arts" section, the district touts the bands and theatre groups that have won regional awards and competitions, and leaves out the dismally low participation rates in extracurricular arts at many of its schools. Or, while charts show the test scores of African-American and Hispanic students lagging well below those of their white peers, particularly in science and math, the district more prominently

declares that these are the groups who made the most progress in the test-score game last year.

In presenting the report, Forgiione took pains to point out that the annual report is not the state-mandated **Academic Excellence Indicator System** report, which comes out at the end of each year, and includes much of the state data. If "I Am AI SD" is perhaps a bit heavy on the sunshine and butterflies, the state reports tend more toward the thunderstorms and funnel clouds — teacher and student demographic and performance data in stark black and white, without giving the district its fair chance to toot its horn about the good it's managing to do in a large, urban district that has a lot more challenges to meet than funds with which to meet them.

The district will distribute the report to schools, chambers of commerce, real estate agents, pediatricians' offices, and other public locations. If, after all that, you still don't manage to trip over a copy, they're available on the AI SD Web site: www.austin.isd.tenet.edu.

— Rachel Proctor May

The 'Observer' Celebrates 50



JOHN ANDERSON

Jim Hightower



Molly Ivins

In its continuing celebration of its 50th anniversary, *The Texas Observer*, in conjunction with the Open Society Institute, the MFI Foundation, and the LBJ School of Public Affairs, will host a bevy of big names at **Lowering the Bar: The Role of the Media in the 2004 Presidential Election**. The symposium takes place at the State Theatre, 719 Congress, 10am-3:30pm on Saturday, Dec. 4. Panels include:

- What Happened? — The Press and the Practice of Presidential Politics in 2004, at 10am, featuring former *New York Times* reporter Adam Clymer (whom Dubya branded "a major league asshole"), NPR reporter Wade Goodwyn, and former *Observer* editors Ronnie Dugger and Molly Ivins;

- What Should Have Happened? — What the Press and Presidential Campaigns Weren't Talking About, at 11:20am, with *Democracy Now!* radio host Amy Goodman, *New Republic* Senior Editor

John Judis, *The Progressive* Editor Matthew Rothschild, and former *Observer* editors Lawrence Goodwyn and Jim Hightower;

- The premiere of Paul Stekler's documentary film short "Texas Observer at 50," introduced by *Texas Monthly* Editor Evan Smith; followed by *Dazed and Confused* — Entertainment Media and Their Impact on Public Understanding of National Politics, at 2:15pm, with film producer Elizabeth Avellan (*Spy Kids*, *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*), and filmmakers Richard Linklater (*Slacker*, *Dazed and Confused*, *Before Sunrise*), Laura Dunn (*Green, Become the Sky*), and Stekler (*Settin' the Woods on Fire*).

- The event will close at 3:30pm with a short video salute to the *Observer* from *The Daily Show*'s Jon Stewart. Tickets are \$10, available at the door. For more info, call 477-0746 or go to www.texasobserver.org. — Lee Nichols

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BICYCLE NOMADS AND THE WINDS OF CHANGE

news

What community-minded, ecologically grounded lessons might be learned from a group of bicycle nomads, circus performers, musicians, biologists, artists, and mechanics about to bolt for Mexico? That's a question raised by the third annual **Bikes Across Borders Winter Bicycle Migration**.

Scheduled to depart in successive waves beginning Dec. 16, the 2,000-mile, three-month bicycle journey to Mexico is described by organizers as a mission to build solidarity partnerships by promoting autonomous transportation and cultural arts. It also represents innovation in economic sustainability and cross-cultural relations. Since 2001, Bikes Across Borders (www.bikesacrossborders.org) has delivered more than 500 bicycles to Mexico, Cuba, and Central America — mostly bicycles refurbished from Texas' briskly-flowing waste stream.

The shipments of recycled and donated bikes, parts, and tools supply new and existing bike shops for village collectives or *ejidos*, and will be used by migrant and *maquiladora* (NAFTA-driven border assembly plant) workers and Mexican field biologists. Along the way, riders perform circuses designed to bridge cultural gaps, like "The Migration of the Monarch," a puppet show addressing the impacts of industrial agriculture, NAFTA, government corruption, and environmental devastation.

The international outreach by way of traveling caravan is certainly not a stand-alone initiative; BAB is part of a grander design incubated here in Austin at the **Rhizome Collective** (www.rhizomecollective.org), a consensus-run educational center for urban sustainability and community organizing. "Seasonal bicycle migration represents a radical departure from mainstream activism," says organizer **Ed Sapir**. "We are creating an entirely new way of life based on ecological and social activism, nonpolluting energy sources, international community, and do-it-yourself technology." Sapir envisions a network of self-sufficient communities built

around "eco-pueblitos," bike shop/garden paradises that meet citizens' food and transportation needs with locally grown in-season foods and human-powered mobility.

The migration complements efforts by the **National Bicycle Greenway** movement (www.nationalbicyclegreenway.com) to advance a nationwide system of interconnected bike roads and pathways, promoting cycling as a mode of transportation for consideration by engineers, planners, and policy-makers. "Winter migration south by bike saves fossil fuels by relying on human power and not having to heat the house," says rider and local activist **Juan Martinez**. He calls the Rhizome efforts "post-oppositionalism" — a "nonreaction" to the power elite's economic and foreign policy actions. "We are creating something genuinely unique from our resources as we exercise power as a collective, using these shared resources to redistribute wealth through the salvage component in Texas to places where it is extremely useful."

Call it localization vs. globalization: "We are searching out human affinities, reconnecting with nature and our southern neighbors, promoting better health, and addressing many of our pressing environmental concerns," Sapir concluded.

Rhizome's Bikes Across Borders grew out of Austin organizations like the **Yellow Bike Project**, which also refurbishes and donates discarded bikes, and the local antiwar group **Bikes Not Bombs**. BAB first coordinated shipments with *Comite Fronterizo de Obreras* (Committee for Border Workers), a group of organized sweatshop workers along the border, donating more than 80 bicycles and a complete tool set. "We are crossing borders of race, class, and gender," said Martinez.

Over the years BAB has teamed with **Pastors for Peace**, a ministry of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization created in 1988 to pioneer the delivery of humanitarian aid to Latin America and the Caribbean in shipments to Cuba and Chiapas. This year's donation is focused on communities in Tamaulipas, while



Bikers from last year's migration to Mexico head south.

plans are being drawn up for subsequent efforts to benefit new immigrants in El Paso and Austin Refugee Services here at home.

"While cars whiz you swiftly through the countryside oblivious to nature's subtleties, the bicycle lets you feel the wind on your cheek, observe fragile desert cacti in bloom, and catalyze conversation with random strangers walking along," Sapir said. Martinez added, "Seasonal migration by bicycle liberates us from the cubicle-car-career matrix and engages us directly with nature and our fellow humans."

The invitation to the Winter Migration is open to anyone who wishes to live in tune with nature, camp under the stars, and float on the great northern winds like migrating birds. "Don't be surprised when we top 100 miles in a single bound after a leisurely breakfast of wild-crafted grains, homemade tortillas, and fresh fruits," said Sapir. The Rhizome Collective, at 300 Allen on the Eastside, has opened the doors to its community bike shop operating Tuesday and Thursday evenings 6-10pm, and will host a benefit event on Friday, Dec. 10, 5pm-12mid. Contact BAB directly at pedalpower@gmail.com or call 769-9691. — Daniel Mottola



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COMMISSIONERS COURT: A FLOOD OF PLANNING

If good things come to those who wait, at long last that includes those residents along **Onion Creek**, who have been waiting years for significant flood relief. Transportation and Natural Resources Executive Manager **Joe Gieselman** told the Travis Co. Commissioners Court Tuesday that the release of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' flood studies on Onion Creek and the Highland Lakes is imminent. Those three-year studies will recommend a buyout of homes in the **Timber Creek** subdivision on Onion Creek. On the Highland Lakes, the flood level will be raised 6 feet, putting homes in places like Graveyard Point also in the buyout category.

Once the reports are released, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can apply for federal assistance, but it will require a 35% match by Travis County. Gieselman wants to roll the cost into the county's upcoming 2005 bond program. "Very soon they will be requesting financial participation for the target areas on Onion Creek and for the Timber Creek buyout," Gieselman said. "We are partners in the study. We're not driving the train, but we will be affected by it."

The reports could be out as soon as January. In the same month, commissioners can expect an update from the Southwest Travis County Growth Dialogue, which was

formed to address the development issues along **Hamilton Pool Road**. (For more on the Hamilton Pool Road issues, see this week's cover story on p.32.)

Environmentalists who have actively lobbied the Court to take broader steps in addressing water-quality issues will be pleased to note that the recommendations are expected to include the use of **Senate Bill 873**. SB 873, passed two sessions ago, gives counties some of the broader regulatory authority typically granted to cities. While its use has been recommended in almost every controversy the county has faced in recent months – from landfill regulation to subdivision approval – this would be the first time county commissioners would give serious consideration to expanding current regulatory powers.

The flood control studies and Hamilton Pool Road debate are part of a broader discussion of current regional planning efforts. In the coming months, Travis Co. will also have to address its priorities in a new 25-year road plan for the region, the creation of a grant program for cars that fail the region's new emissions testing, the re-appointment of members on the Central Texas Regional Mobility Authority, and a decision on whether to continue financial support of the Envision Central Texas regional planning initiative.

– Kimberly Reeves

BILLS, BAD AND OTHERWISE

• **Banning birth control:** In an apparent quest to build upon his successes during the last legislative session, Rep. **Frank Corte**, R-San Antonio, is angling to strangle and cut off a few more reproductive rights during the upcoming 79th Legislature. Corte was the mastermind of the informed consent law – which requires women seeking an abortion to wait an extra 24 hours before going through with the procedure, and to peruse a factually challenged yet colorful state-produced pamphlet on fetal growth and the dangers of abortion. On Nov. 8, he fired another bullet in his effort to demonstrate that women are too stupid to know what's best for them, but are nonetheless smart enough to raise a brood. This time, Corte aims to protect pharmacists from having to fill prescriptions for **"emergency contraceptives"** if they don't want to. Theoretically, Corte is talking about the so-called "morning-after" pill. But according to the text of his HB 16, emergency contraceptive is defined as "a prescription drug containing an elevated dose of hormones that is used to prevent pregnancy" – in other words, all birth-control pills. In a stunning show of his compassionate concern, Corte's bill has provided a remedy – read, avenue for legal action – for pharmacists whose "rights are violated" if they are forced to fill the offending prescription. The bill, however, does nothing to ensure that a woman can easily find another way to have her prescription filled.

• **Death penalty reform:** On Nov. 15, state Sen. **Rodney Ellis**, D-Houston, filed his perennial bill seeking to ban the execution of the **mentally retarded**. Ellis filed similar legislation in 1999, 2001, and 2003, and although the U.S. Supreme Court in 2002 banned the practice of executing the mentally

retarded, Texas has yet to enact a statutory ban. Ellis' latest go-round, SB 85, would require a pretrial hearing to determine whether a defendant is mentally retarded. In 2003, Ellis' version of the bill stalled after clashing with a House bill by state Rep. **Terry Keel**, R-Austin, under which the determination would be made after the guilt/innocence phase of the trial, by the *same* convicting jury – a scheme the Supremes would likely find wanting. In 2001, Ellis' bill was vetoed by Gov. Rick "Compassionate" Perry in his Father's Day Massacre.

Ellis has also filed two bills aimed at helping Texas' **wrongfully convicted**. SB 86 would increase compensation to \$50,000 for each year an innocent was incarcerated, up to a \$1 million cap, and would scrap the current statutory requirement that a wrongfully convicted defendant choose between administrative compensation and pursuing a civil suit against the state. "You would think that after these

individuals have been forced to suffer in prison for a crime they did not commit," Ellis said, "the state would be willing to spend at least as much on trying to help them put their lives back together as they spend on locking them up." And his SB 87 would remove the legal requirement that a wrongfully incarcerated defendant receive a letter from the prosecuting district attorney attesting to his or her innocence in order to get monetary compensation from the state. That twisted provision kept Josiah Sutton – freed after spending four years in prison for a rape he did not commit – from collecting compensation after Harris Co. District Attorney Chuck Rosenthal refused to write a letter in his behalf.

– Jordan Smith

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STATE ENERGY PLAN: DEPENDENT AND DIRTY

news

The **Texas Energy Planning Council**, a 22-member body appointed by Gov. Rick Perry, met Monday to consider approving a final energy plan for the state. Clean energy advocates are pushing for increases to the proposed **Renewable Portfolio Standard**, a measure mandating the amount of energy generated from renewable sources such as wind, solar, or biomass, and less use of fossil fuels like liquified natural gas and coal. The council's recommended RPS has a 5% renewable standard by 2015 and roughly 10% by 2025, well shy of the 10% by 2015, 20% by 2020 goal set by a coalition of environmental and consumer groups. "At issue is whether we want a state energy plan that utilizes our tremendous renewable energy resources, or one that makes us dependent on energy from other states and other countries," said **Tom "Smitty" Smith**, director of Public Citizen's Texas office and a major proponent of a reformed RPS.

Council Chairman **Victor Carrillo**, who also chairs the Railroad Commission, said he wanted the final plan to "increase Texas' and America's energy security and independence." But TEPC recommendations rely heavily on imported liquefied natural gas, and cite building more "clean coal" power plants in the state while acquiring more oil and gas from the deep waters off the Texas Gulf Coast.

Smitty argues that the council's proposed plan depends too heavily on imported and polluting fuel sources, downplays the value of solar and wind power, and underemphasizes

energy efficiency as a tool to reduce demand. The TEPC increased the scope of the Public Utility Commission efficiency program and continued energy efficiency funding for the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan, two valuable programs. But despite pressure from advocates, TEPC declined to increase efficiency measures in the building codes.

"Why are we choosing to purchase billions of dollars of foreign LNG instead of investing in local resources and creating local jobs when we have safe and economic energy resources here in Texas?" asked **Anne Johnson** of Public Citizen. "Data from the Renewable Energy Policy Project shows that a substantial renewable energy policy could lead to as many as 60,000 new jobs in Texas." Johnson also noted that Nigeria, a major supplier of LNG to the U.S., was one of few countries where anti-U.S. demonstrations occurred following 9/11. Earlier this month, Halliburton and three corporate partners admitted making \$180 million in bribes to Nigerian officials in connection with an LNG plant contract. "It is just a bad decision, both economically and for security reasons, to remain dependent or become even more dependent on foreign sources of fuel," Johnson said. The TEPC meets again in mid-December before sending recommendations to Gov. Perry Dec. 31. Those interested in taking action can send faxes to the TEPC and pertinent House and Senate committees from www.renewabletexas.org/action.html.

— Daniel Mottola

ALLAH MADE THEM FUNNY

It was Wednesday evening prayer at the Islamic Center of Greater Austin; as the call of the muezzin faded from the air, a close-pressed line of men bowed and knelt in ritual recitation. Behind them, in the back of the mosque, **Sabira Janmohamed** whispered and giggled with her large and jolly entourage of cousins and in-laws, who eagerly waited for the real show to begin.

"I'm excited," she said. "I've never been to a Muslim comedy show before."

Janmohamed was among the couple hundred attendees to **Allah Made Me Funny**, a national Muslim comedy tour that hit Austin last week. The tour is intended, at least in part, to reach out to Americans more familiar with Islam via Osama bin Laden than via jokes about prayer wedgies or the dreaded "Ramadan breath," an unpleasant condition that hits a couple of weeks into the monthlong fast. However, the religious venue meant that mostly Muslims attended the show, a family-friendly affair complete with toddlers rampaging about in fuzzy pink pajamas and no joke dirtier than a slightly icky shtick about ugly feet in airport security areas.

But even if outreach potential was limited, Janmohamed said there was value simply in getting Muslims together to laugh at themselves. "It's like the

[comedy tour] organizers say, comedy might be the only way to get all types of Muslims into the same room," she said.

However, her sister-in-law **Aiman Janmohamed** said she hoped non-Muslims would also get a chance to see the tour. "I think the view many Americans have of Muslims is that we're very serious, and don't have a sense of humor," she said. "I think it's a new and positive thing to have jokes about Muslims that show us in an everyday way, that we're all just human beings."

The two performers, **Azeem** and **Preacher Moss** (a third comedian, Azhar Usman, unexpectedly cancelled), were both African-American converts, but had no problem sending the largely South Asian and Middle Eastern audience into hysterics. Not surprisingly, the performers found their most fruitful comedic terrain in mocking stereotypes, from Azeem's grandmother's reaction to his conversion ("She said, 'You can't be a Muslim. You ain't been to jail yet!'" to the common misperception that Muslims are somehow inherently violent.

As for the latter, Azeem set the record straight once and for all. "Brothers and sisters, we really are the most peaceful people on earth," he said. "I mean, Mike Tyson hasn't won a fight since he converted!"

— Rachel Proctor May

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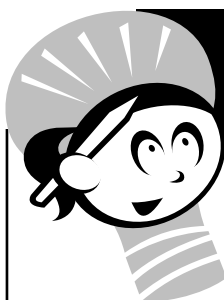
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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

SPAM DIPLOMACY

Spam is uniquely American, right? This mysterious meatlike concoction in a pull-tab can is a made-in-the-USA icon of American marketing, produced by Hormel Foods up in Minnesota.

I happen to love Spam, and, no, I don't want to know what's in it. I subsisted on fried Spam sandwiches to get me through college, and I've even been a tasting judge of the sometimes-startling Spam concoctions prepared for the renowned Spamarama contest held in Austin for the past 26 years.

But I was stunned — and not a little hurt — to learn that the corporate purveyors of Spam are now trying to hide the Americanism of this potted meat delicacy. It seems that Hormel is concerned that its Spam sales could be hurt in England because of the Brits' rather intense opposition to George W.'s war in Iraq. Indeed, a poll finds that 20% of consumers in Britain, Japan, and elsewhere say they'll shun such identifiably American products as Spam, Marlboro, and Starbucks to protest Bush's my-way-or-the-highway approach to the rest of the world.

To counter this possibility, Hormel has launched a \$3.7 million marketing blitz in England in an effort to position Spam as quintessentially British. The ads, featuring typical Brits, portray Spam as a longtime part of the British culture, as though it's a homegrown product with no connection to that place across the pond.

Hormel has even anglicized the Spamarama festival! The Spam Chippie of the Year award is presented to the British fish-and-chip shop that makes the best dish from this pink meat stuff. They also name the Spam Chef of the Year in England, a culinary honor that was recently won by a chap who makes Spam wontons.

Come on, Hormel, stop hiding your beautiful pink piece of Americana under a British bushel. You should strut your stuff as one of the good things from America. Instead of Bush's gunboat diplomacy, show the world Spam diplomacy!

ROBBERY BY BANKRUPTCY

Why is it that when George W. says he's going to "reform" something, I instinctively want to grab my money, my liberties, my family ... and flee to the woods?

For the Bushites, the word reform means "deform," to monkey-wrench the system so the rich get richer ... and the rest of us get schtoked. Still, there's one system crying out for real reform: the bankruptcy process that corporations are using to stiff their employees — letting CEOs simply walk away from binding contracts on wages, health care, and pensions.

At present, the big abusers of employees are United, U.S. Air, Delta, and other major airlines that have been poorly managed and now are being squeezed by their bankers and jet-fuel suppliers. Screaming poverty, these airlines have rushed to bankruptcy court, demanding that judges allow them to abrogate legitimate contracts that they had negotiated in good faith with their pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, and others.

These are loyal, longtime, hard-working employees who already have made concession after concession, giving back billions of dollars that were owed to them. Yet the CEOs are demanding still more, using the federal bankruptcy law as their weapon for this mugging. This one-sided law apparently legalizes end runs to let corporations weasel out of their obligations. What an interesting lesson for all of us who've been taught that a contract is sacrosanct, a legally binding giving of one's word.

Here's my question: Why do the CEOs only target the workers for cost-cutting? Why not tell Exxon and the other fuel suppliers, "No, we can't pay your gouging prices, so we're abrogating those commitments"? Or, why not say to the superwealthy bankers, "You take some of the pain, too"? Why do they only pound their workers?

I don't know about you, but on my flights, I'd rather have a disgruntled banker or fuel supplier than an angry pilot, flight attendant, or mechanic. It's time to fix the bankruptcy law that has legalized the corporate robbery of workers.

Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of *Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush*, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit www.jimhightower.com.



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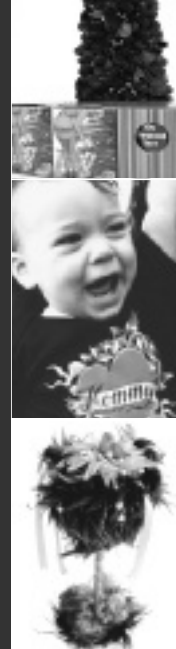
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The LCRA Moves to Turn on the Tap

THE FUTURE OF THE HILL COUNTRY WAITS ON AUTHORITY'S DECISIONS ON WATER PLAN BY AMY SMITH

"We pray ... that you will give us knowledge and wisdom and understanding, that we might make good and godly decisions that will bless our customers and this organization, LCRA."

— Invocation at the Sept. 14 LCRA board meeting

We've all heard the arguments against expanding water utility service to environmentally sensitive areas west and southwest of Austin, where the Lower Colorado River Authority is projecting a thriving customer base to sprout over the next 30 years. While the LCRA sees "strategic investment" opportunities for community development in an ecologically unique region replete with songbirds and clear-running creeks, other residents and community activists see a planning and environmental nightmare that could ultimately destroy that little piece of heaven known as the Hill Country.

The utility has crafted a road map based on a 30-year growth projection of 125,000 new arrivals to western Travis and northern Hays counties, an area that is currently home to about 30,000 people. These assumptions are reinforced by the Authority's desire to lead the way. But is the LCRA headed in the right direction? Not when weighed against the "plan first, build second" mantra of stakeholders involved in three regional and county planning efforts (made possible, as it happens, through more than \$200,000 in funding from the LCRA; see "We Had a Little Plan," p.35). Within that context, community and environmental participants would like to promote a primarily eastward growth trend, relatively limited density on the western front, and stricter water quality measures — all intended to ensure the longevity of the Hill Country landscape, its network of lakes and

creeks, and, of course, Barton Springs. These goals are in keeping with the mission of the far-reaching Envision Central Texas project, an inclusive planning process that kicked off two years ago (again, with substantial financial backing from the LCRA) as a means of giving communities a voice in growth management. The question remains: Will that voice be effective or simply one more public relations element in the agency's visible determination to move ahead on speculative water sales, whatever the outcome of the planning process?

Apart from land-use issues, there are serious concerns about the LCRA's ability to advance its plan before resolving some financial and organizational problems within its fledgling retail water operations. These problems have only recently begun to spark candid discussions between the board and the utility's brass. "It's essential that we have our business house in order," one director sternly told General Manager Joe Beal at a September board meeting. As a 70-year-old electricity and water/wastewater outfit, the Authority has had decades to hone and grow its greatest achievements — power and wholesale water. The utility isn't yet as seasoned in running a retail water business, where costly errors and a \$16 million annual debt load naturally raises questions, both inside and outside the Authority, about the wisdom of piling on more debt by venturing into politically and geologically rocky territory.



JANA BIRCHUM

This sign on Hamilton Pool Road calls for the LCRA's to delay its water pipeline decision until a regional plan is in place. If growth continues without a plan, the eastern segment of this little two-lane country road could see 20,000 car trips per day by 2030 (up from 6,500 today) and would require widening to four lanes, according to Texas Department of Transportation reports.

West vs. East

As it happens, the Authority sprang from the failings of another utility — a Chicago-based concern that went bankrupt in 1931, midway through construction of the Hamilton Dam in Burnet Co. A young Texas state senator and water lawyer, Alvin Wirtz, drafted legislation to create the public, non-profit LCRA in order to complete the Hamilton Dam project with public funding. The measure failed three times before Gov. Miriam A. "Ma" Ferguson signed it into law in 1934. Construction on the dam wrapped up in 1937 (setting off a succession of other dam projects) and was renamed after its biggest ally in Congress — J.P. Buchanan, who died the same year. His death effectively launched Lyndon Baines Johnson's rise to power. It was Johnson who urged his friend Wirtz and the LCRA to begin capitalizing on the electricity generated at the dams. The idea fit neatly into Johnson's campaign bid for Buchanan's congressional seat, and he ran on a promise of bringing electricity to rural areas throughout the Hill Country. From there, the utility grew its electric empire before jumping into the business of providing irrigation water to farmers, while simultaneously expanding its water rights on the Colorado River.

Today, Wirtz and Johnson are remembered as the guiding lights of the organization, and electricity is still its main financial asset, representing 90% of the \$880 million revenue stream, followed by wholesale water. The LCRA waded into retail water operations about 10 years ago, but the learning curve has been very steep, due largely to the classic business mistakes that follow growing too fast. In fairness, much of

the water utility's financial losses came from takeovers of antiquated, and therefore costly, water and wastewater systems in small communities. As a publicly funded institution, the LCRA can't easily turn down requests from municipalities or small private operators eager to get out of the water business, even if it means the Authority must accept difficult financial burdens. Saying no would be a rejection of its mission as a water provider.

But now, broadening that mission is a new agenda to get ahead of the growth that Beal believes is inevitable in what is now vast, hilly open space to the west of Austin, an extension of massive subdivisions cropping up in Hays County. Beal wants to extend service from the existing LCRA water line along U.S. Highway 290 to new developments built since that pipeline began flowing in 2002. Yet the proposal itself serves to bear out opponents' claims at the time that the line would promote more growth in the Barton Springs watershed. Local officials and the LCRA brushed aside the warnings, but here we are today with four new Hays Co. subdivisions in the works, the largest being Cypress Realty's planned 2,700-home development. If the LCRA carries out Beal's plan, many people are predicting a repeat performance to play out in western Travis Co. One of LCRA's own environmental consultants, Brigid Shea, whom Beal hired to help him, as he put it, "interface" with the environmental community, has told Beal straight up that west is not the way to go. "I have told [Beal] and the board how I feel about this," Shea said, "and I've urged them to go east."

The Authority's board of directors will hear all sides of the east vs. west debate at a



JANA BIRCHUM

This view of the Pedernales River from Hammett's Crossing, a quaint low-water bridge constructed in the mid-Twenties, could change drastically over the next 10 to 30 years.

The bridge disappeared under water during heavy rains in November and could disappear altogether if new development and traffic continue pushing westward.

special meeting on Dec. 7, when it considers the first sliver of the utility's sweeping \$225 million plumbing plan. Beal is requesting approval to extend a surface water pipeline to the Hamilton Pool Road area – one of the prettiest pieces of the LCRA puzzle. The immediate proposal calls for installing a line to serve three different proposed subdivisions on properties along the road, adjacent and across from one another. It's uncertain whether the board will consider an equally dicey subject – extending the line to existing homeowners on Hamilton Pool Road, many of whom have been waiting years for piped-in surface water to replace a slowly depleting supply of groundwater (see "LCRA's \$10,000 'Stepchildren,'" p.36).

For now, it is the new, dense developments that are given precedence because they're built with the necessary infrastructure to tap into the LCRA line, unlike those existing homes on well and septic systems. The first development plan to move forward is Rebecca Hudson's Rocky Creek Ranch, which calls for 468 homes to be "clustered" on 15% of a 468-acre tract, with open space designated for the remainder. The site is just outside the contributing zone of the Edwards Aquifer and alongside Rocky Creek, a lovely spring-fed stream that flows

Will community planning be effective or simply one more public relations element in the agency's visible determination to move ahead on speculative water sales?

into Barton Creek. The plan has received preliminary approval from Travis County, and Hudson, who intends to maintain her residence on the property, now awaits the LCRA board decision on a crucial element – water.

Red Flags Rising

By most accounts, the LCRA board has emerged in the past six months as a group of independent voices, shedding its image as a rubber-stamp collection of anonymous faces from far-flung spots within the Authority's vast service area. The 15 directors are appointees of former Gov. George W. Bush and his successor Rick Perry, who is said to be watching this discussion closely, from a pro-pipeline perspective that would presumably connect to his own road-driven vision for growth. The board has already once delayed a vote on the Hamilton Pool Road proposal, for six months, and planning advocates believe a second postponement is in order, to await the completion of at least one of the three planning efforts under way for the area. The largest study of the three, the Regional Water Quality Protection Project, is in its first draft form and undergoing review. Terry Tull, the group's executive director, expects to have a final draft completed by February. The long-range objective – laid out two years ago by

continued on p.35



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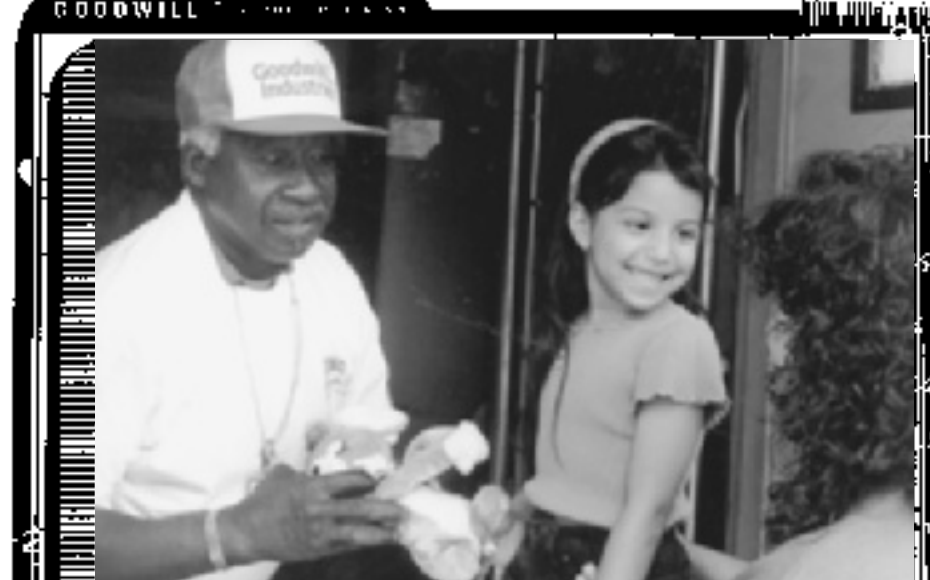
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Austin City Council Member Daryl Slusher and Hays Co. Judge Jim Powers – is to get some sort of uniform ordinance in place for the Barton Springs watershed, which includes Hamilton Pool Road. Meanwhile, environmental and planning advocates continue pressing their arguments against the LCRA's expansion into the Hill Country.

Enter the mayor of Sunrise Beach, a sleepy little hamlet on the shores of Lake LBJ, 60 miles northwest of Austin. Mayor Patricia Frain may have unintentionally handed the pipeline opponents their best weapon yet: documented evidence supporting arguments that the LCRA should get its financial and management affairs in order before heading west on a speculative venture. Frain, a no-nonsense Air Force retiree in her second term as mayor, never dreamed she'd be launching a one-woman investigation into the inner workings of the LCRA. But after hitting brick walls on questions she had about rising water rates, she took matters into her own hands. "I'm pretty mild-mannered and easy to get along with," Frain said, and not in the habit of going looking for trouble. But two months of getting the runaround had worn her down. "That's when the gloves came off."

The mayor filed a very detailed open-records request for copies of contracts, memos, e-mails, and any other documents pertaining to the Sunrise Beach water system, starting from the time the LCRA took over the aging water plant, about six years ago, and proceeding through this year. She asked for information on bidding procedures for outside contractors, documents relating to a well-conversion project, a detailed breakdown of all costs, and finally an organizational chart of LCRA's water

services division. As Frain explained, "I felt that one or more of the areas contained the answer to the problem." Unbeknownst to LCRA officials, the mayor knew exactly the sort of red flags to look for, drawing on the years she spent analyzing contracts and management services in the Air Force.

Frain organized her information, prepared a report, and presented her findings – this time to the board of directors during a two-day meeting that took place Sept. 14-15 at Lake Buchanan. (She had already provided Beal with a preview.) "Instead of continuing to battle the large increases each year, which are only the result, or the symptom, of a problem," Frain began, "I went to look for the cause of the escalating rates." The cost increases to Sunrise Beach customers started the second year after LCRA took over the town's outdated water system and continued through to the existing monthly base rate of \$46 per 3,000 gallons.

The utility also projected future rate hikes – to \$65 in 2005, and \$72 in 2006 (those increases are now on hold). "Each of these increases were accompanied with charts showing that LCRA isn't meeting its expenses, even with the increase," Frain said. She found her answers in the pile of contracts with outside engineering firms that the Authority hired to bring the town's outdated water system up to modern-day standards. The firms would routinely submit change orders that doubled and tripled the costs of the original contracts. Sunrise Beach customers paid the price. Buried in the reams of official documents, the mayor discovered an e-mail in which one consultant expressed concern about the costs of the project. Frain quoted from the e-mail reply of the staff project manager: "Don't worry about it. The



JANA BIRCHUM

This sign along Hamilton Pool Road confirms some views that "growth is inevitable" in western Travis Co., but this particular "For Sale" sign promises a more palatable low-low-density development of a few homes on large tracts.

cost will be passed on to the tap owners." She paused a couple of seconds to let that soak in. "This reinforces the public opinion that LCRA is a cost-plus operation."

Frain also came across another document – a letter to the LCRA from its billing contractor, which noted it had inadvertently overcharged Sunrise Beach customers by \$90,000. The contractor corrected the error in April with a \$90,000 refund to the utility – but ratepayers had yet to be credited for the amount. (The LCRA has since moved to make amends.)

Robert Cullick, the utility's chief spokesman, points out that the mayor has been asked to serve on a special advisory committee made up of LCRA's water/wastewater customers. "She brought a lot of issues to our attention, and we've tried to respond to her concerns to the fullest of our ability," he said. "And I think she will tell you she has received a satisfactory response."

concerns across to the board, and the board is not happy with the Authority's performance. Still, for all its missteps in the retail area, said Beal, "There are 167,000 [customers] out there, and the vast majority of them are as happy as pigs in slop."

In slop or in a poke, the public airings of the utility's internal woes have placed more pressure on Beal and his lieutenants to prove to the board that the retail division is capable of taking on new projects without turning them into money pits. So there is a lot riding on the 30-year plan. At the same time, the proposal is causing a good deal of angst among many of LCRA's staff of dedicated environmentalists, ranging from engineers to some of Austin's greenest tree huggers. They're the ones credited with building and maintaining LCRA's image as a progressive (and well-paying) institution, which is partly why the Legislature doesn't always look kindly on the Authority. Between its water

We Had a Little Plan ...

Three planning groups are studying the effects that future growth would have on the environmentally sensitive terrain of western Travis and northern Hays counties, where the Lower Colorado River Authority wants to extend its water utility reach. The LCRA board is scheduled to consider the first phase of a proposed water plan – building a pipeline along Hamilton Pool Road – at a special meeting at 2pm Tuesday, Dec. 7, at the Terrace Club, 2600 U.S. 290 W., 11 miles west of the 290/Highway 71 split in Oak Hill. Given the upcoming vote – before the completion of the planning work – pipeline opponents question whether the Authority intends to pay more than lip service to the recommendations of the groups, which include:

REGIONAL WATER QUALITY PLANNING PROJECT

This is the largest of the three efforts, and involves drawing up uniform development and environmental protection standards for all municipalities within the Barton Springs segment of the Edwards Aquifer. Planning leaders hope to submit a final proposal to government officials by February. Stakeholders have asked the LCRA to delay action until a regional plan is in place for the area. Hays Co. resident Terry Tull is the group's full-time executive director.

SOUTHWEST TRAVIS CO. GROWTH DIALOG PROCESS

Formed this summer, this stakeholder panel is charged with soliciting input and making recommendations on development and its effects on roads in the unincorporated areas of southwest Travis County. County Commissioner Gerald Daugherty, who has largely been supportive of growth in the area, is leading the group. Joe Lessard, a planning consultant and former Austin city manager, is the group's facilitator.

HAMILTON POOL ROAD COMMUNITY FORUM

The LCRA board called for the formation of this group when it first delayed its pipeline vote in May. Consultant Dr. Juli Fellows has been retained to lead the group. – A.S.

Mayor Frain quoted from the e-mail of the LCRA staff project manager: "Don't worry about [the expense]. The cost will be passed on to the tap owners."

That's frankly the way it's supposed to work." Indeed, it took bringing the problem directly to the board's attention to get response from LCRA management, but Frain is generous with her praise of what has transpired since then. "Once you've got the board's attention, then you're three-quarters of the way there," she said. "They have not been in retail sales very long, and I don't think they were good at it. But they're going to be getting better."

On the whole, the Authority owns about 35 water/wastewater systems and counts only a handful of them as major headaches – for the utility and the customers. On this matter, elected officials from the likes of Sunrise Beach and little Lometa in Lampasas Co. have managed to get their

business problems and staff ambivalence about heading west, the LCRA is at the crossroads of deciding its future. By extension, the natural and human future of the Hill Country has become thoroughly entwined with the institutional future of the LCRA – and it remains unclear whether what might be good for the LCRA is necessarily good for an irreplaceable piece of Texas.

For their part, some board members are also starting to echo the staff's apprehension about the risks – financial and otherwise – of building a pipeline to the west, when the east holds much fewer limitations. "I know that we struggle a lot as a board," director Rosemary Rust told Beal, "and I'm certain there's a lot of ambiguity with staff

continued on p.36

[about] developing in environmentally sensitive areas, when the projections show that it's going to be easy east of I-35 because there's going to be a lot of growth there."

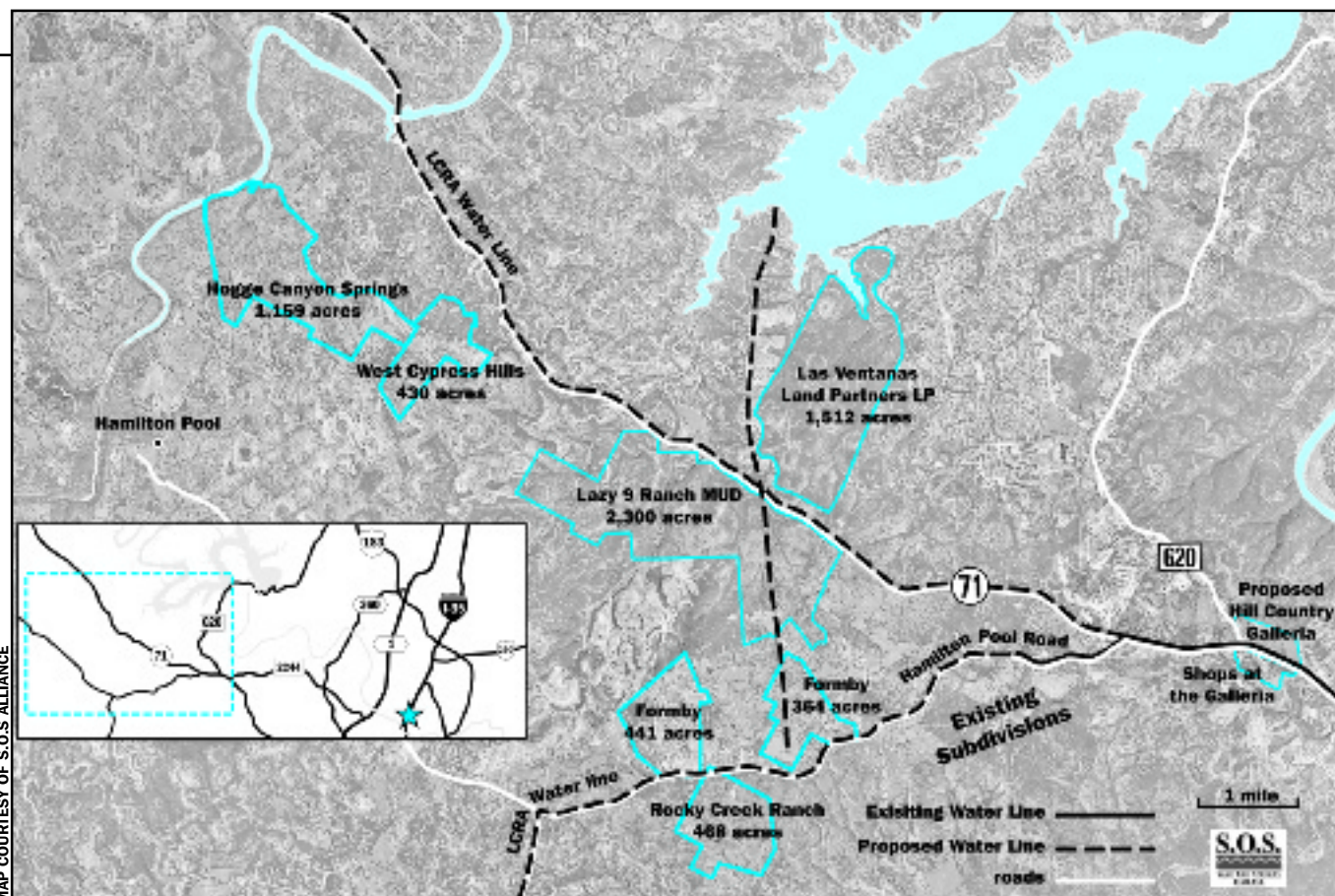
"What do you think we should do, Rosemary?" Beal asked.

"Personally," she said, "the easier stuff that would ... pay for itself. It's just one of those 'duh' issues."

That sentiment, echoed by half a dozen other board members, is what is giving opponents of the LCRA proposal renewed hope of getting a regional plan in place before the pipeline is built. "The board members are finally asking the questions they should have been asking all along," said one observer close to the issue. "The idea is, 'Let's have some planning in place first.' The LCRA is in a position to do more for this part of the country than anyone else. They have the ability to be great environmental leaders."

Opening Act

Along Hamilton Pool Road, many residents are vocally unhappy over the prospect of what they believe will become suburban-style subdivisions, with homes crammed on small lots, thousands of additional cars on the narrow roadway, and the general disruption of a quiet, rural community. Among the leaders of the opposition are Rebecca Hudson's neighbors, Gene and Linda Lowenthal, who fear their 58-acre property, where their hilltop home takes in expansive views of Rocky Creek and well into the Hill Country, will lose both its monetary and aesthetic value. "People move out here to enjoy a rustic lifestyle – that's what makes this area so unique," said Gene Lowenthal, a leader in the Hamilton Pool Road Scenic Corridor Coalition, as well as the larger Hill Country Coalition, which represents the interests of communities that fall within LCRA's vision for this area of Travis and Hays counties. In Lowenthal's view, Hudson's compliance with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service guidelines, as well as the development's "clustered" effects to create open space, are just old-fashioned "green-washing." "The primary benefit is to the



Along Hamilton Pool Road, many residents are vocally unhappy over the prospect of what they believe will become suburban-style subdivisions, ... and the general disruption of a quiet, rural community.

developer," he said. "Clustering is really a way of making water affordable – and encouraging density at the same time."

Most recently, the LCRA asked Hamilton Pool Road developers to comply voluntarily with the agency's nonpoint source pollution ordinance, which had not extended to the Barton Creek watershed, where Fish and Wildlife standards apply. Apparently the utility does have the authority to regulate this environmentally sensitive, unincorporated area of the county. (So far, no developer has committed to comply with the ordinance.)

Hudson defends her proposed plan,

pointing out that she has given the development a lot of thought from an environmental perspective, and has spent two years trying to draw up a sensible, environmentally sound blueprint that follows Fish & Wildlife guidelines. "I live right next to this creek, I love this creek, and I'm not going anywhere," said Hudson, "so I'm as interested as anybody in ensuring that we do this the right way."

In addition, Hudson said she is exploring more innovative water-conservation and -reuse measures and has hired Kent Butler, a UT professor of community and regional

planning, to study various rainwater collection system scenarios. She is also talking to home-builders experienced with integrating such systems into their developments. Taken by itself, the Hudson plan might not be drawing such broad opposition, but longtime residents throughout the region see the development as the camel's nose under the Hill Country tent. LCRA's Beal persistently argues that growth will happen in this area. "We want to get ahead of the growth," he told his board in September. Christy Muse, a Hill Country Coalition leader, agrees that growth will happen if the

LCRA'S \$10,000 'STEPCHILDREN'

Somewhat overwhelmed in the ongoing debate over a proposed water-line extension to the Hill Country are the hundreds of existing homeowners who would gladly trade in their well systems for piped-in surface water.

But for \$10,000? No, thanks. That's the value the Lower Colorado River Authority has placed on each tap it would provide to older homes along Hamilton Pool Road, where it wants to build a pipeline to serve three proposed new developments. Whereas the new projects are denser, and would be built with modern plumbing systems, the existing homes were built years ago on 1- to 4-acre lots and would require extensive and costly retrofitting to convert from groundwater, which is depleting in both quality and quantity, to piped-in surface water. What's more, the LCRA is requiring 80% participation from each of the three existing subdivisions – roughly 400 households in each community – before it commits to provide the service.

Linda Ellis, who has lived in West Cave Estates for 18 years, says the 80% requirement, coupled with the \$10,000

out-of-pocket expense, effectively closes the door on modern-day conveniences for existing households. "Once again, we're left feeling like the stepchildren," she said. Ellis has been through this before. In the mid- to late Nineties, she and other neighbors had hoped to hook into the then proposed "290" water line that the LCRA has since built to serve new developments in northern Hays Co. The LCRA argument at the time was that drought conditions warranted building the line to serve existing households on well systems. But that line has primarily served new growth, with more new subdivision projects on the way – just as pipeline opponents had predicted.

A more broadly organized opposition group is hoping to head off a similar occurrence on Hamilton Pool Road and in western Travis Co. Last week, Hamilton Pool Road resident and opposition leader Gene Lowenthal sent each LCRA board member a ream of petitions bearing signatures from nearly 1,000 people opposed to the pipeline. He said 64% of the signers live up and down Hamilton Pool Road, and noted that

enough petitioners have signed to rule out 80% participation from each of the existing subdivisions along the roadway.

That's precisely why Ellis is trying to negotiate a more attainable participation requirement and a reasonable upfront fee with LCRA officials. "My original phone contact [of homeowners] found that 60 to 70% of them are very interested in getting water," she said. "When I asked [LCRA officials] if they would accept that number, they hedged a little, but they didn't rule it out." She also wants the Authority to rethink the \$10,000 each household would need to pay up front, at least two years before they get what they pay for. "You don't buy big-ticket items and then wait two years for it," Ellis said. "This has got to be more doable."

Still, Ellis notes, she doesn't want environmental protection measures to be given short shrift in the process. "I want the water as bad as anybody, but not at any cost," she said. "I would not want it if it meant no regulation." In her view, the LCRA is the right agency to advance a water deal because of its mission to be good stewards of the land. "I don't want to stop what's coming. I just want it to come the right way."

But if what happened in Hays Co. is any indication, Ellis and her neighbors can count on "what's coming" to take priority over their own water needs.

— A.S.

Westward Re-Ho?

Some updates are in order for these western Travis Co. development hot spots since our last report in May ("Westward Ho!," May 28, 2004). As the map indicates, the proposed Hamilton Pool Road pipeline is just the foot in the door; also under serious consideration are a much longer line along Highway 71 and smaller feeder lines.

Rocky Creek Ranch, Formby East and West

Of the three proposed subdivisions pending along Hamilton Pool Road, landowner Rebecca Hudson's Rocky Creek Ranch plan has received preliminary approval from Travis Co. and now awaits a Dec. 7 decision from the LCRA on a proposed water pipeline that would provide surface water to the project. Plans for the two Formby properties are still on the table.

Lazy 9 Ranch MUD

Developer Bill Gunn won county approval in June to begin developing the first phase – 269 acres – of a planned 2,300-acre subdivision of nearly 3,000 homes on Highway 71.

Shops at the Galleria

This commercial center, under construction across the road from its future twin, the Hill Country Galleria, has recently run afoul of state inspectors for faulty environmental controls that failed to prevent construction runoff from polluting Little Barton Creek during recent rainstorms. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has ordered developers to correct the problems, but has issued no sanctions.

West Cypress Hills

Up the road, developer Rusty Hill appears to have finally gotten his storm water detention pond and dam under control after more than a year of pollution disasters on Lick Creek.

Las Ventanas

There's been no movement recently on this proposed project near Lake Travis.

Hogge Canyon Springs

It's likewise quiet here, where landowners are said to be mulling some sort of conservation-friendly development, unlike other run-of-the-mill subdivisions in the works.

board approves Beal's proposal. "It's just the first step in what will be a massive web of developments out here," she said.

Indeed, developments are in progress or are on the drawing board for the village of Bee Cave and areas farther west along Highway 71, headed toward the Pedernales River and beyond. Two of the larger residential projects include the Lazy 9 Ranch subdivision of 2,300 homes, which got preliminary approval from Travis Co. for the first phase, and last year secured legislation to create a Municipal Utility District. (A lawsuit brought by the Save Our Springs Alliance against Lazy 9 went to trial in November, and a final ruling is expected early this month.) Also, West Cypress Hills, a 435-home subdivision under development, was practically a household name much of the year in frequent media reports from the site because of a storm water detention pond and dam's failures to keep sediment-laden runoff from spilling into Lick Creek. Both the creek and area residents bore the brunt of the pollution from the construction site, and a lawsuit is pending on the matter. The developer has in recent months taken corrective measures – which appear to be working this time – and there have been no reports of unnaturally sullied waters since September.

Meanwhile, one of those "I told you so" environmental disasters is playing out in Bee Cave, where a vast commercial center under construction, the Shops at the Galleria, wreaks havoc on Little Barton Creek each time it rains, prompting visits and recommendations (but no sanctions thus far) from state environmental inspectors. And in Hays Co., it goes without saying that more developments will spring from the U.S. 290 pipeline in the vast extraterritorial jurisdiction of Dripping Springs.

The LCRA believes that with a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity, which it hopes to obtain from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, it could force developers to comply with Fish & Wildlife environmental standards as a provision for receiving surface water. But skeptics believe the utility wants the CCN for one reason: to keep out the competition so it can charge the rates necessary to cover the expense of its westward business venture. Longtime residents and Hill Country advocates are asking: Why should LCRA effectively accelerate the growth by opening the tap to readily accessible water, the lack of which would act as a natural brake on speculative or unsustainable development? "This will be the first domino to fall," said Gene Lowenthal. "This is just the first act of a long play."

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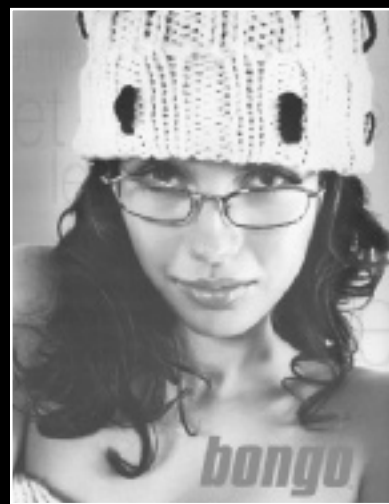
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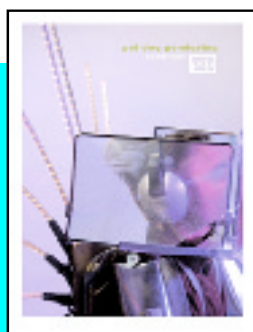
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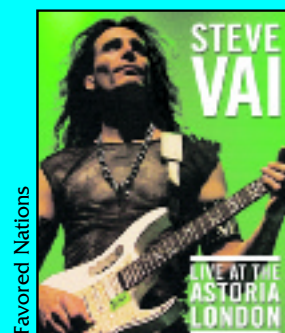
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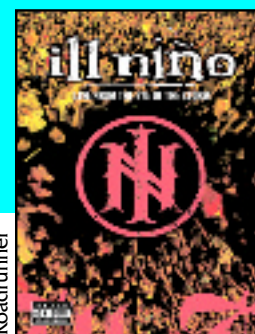
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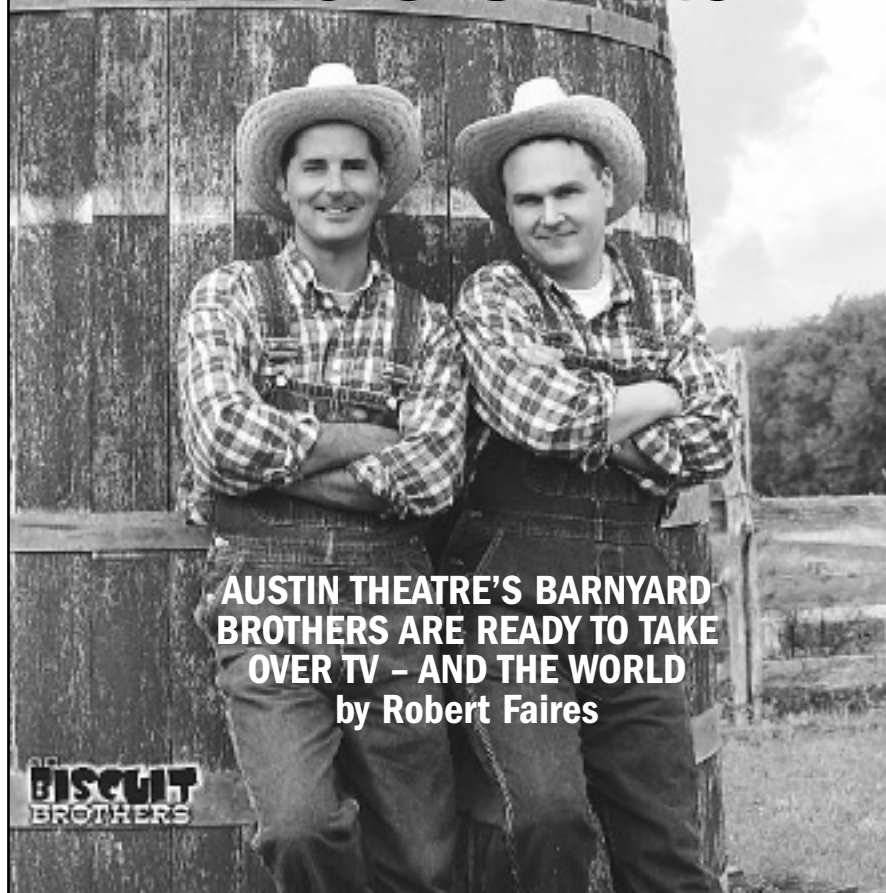
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AUSTIN THEATRE'S BARNYARD BROTHERS ARE READY TO TAKE OVER TV – AND THE WORLD
by Robert Faires

Jill Leberknight (*The World Goes 'Round*), visits to artists, and a plot of sorts that communicates something fundamental about music. The pilot episode, shot on location at Pioneer Farms, revolves around a search for some missing musical instruments, during which the Biscuits pay a call on a workshop where guitars are made.

What makes the show successful – and makes the Biscuits candidates for Raffi-level superstardom – is the same stuff that worked on stage: immensely appealing characters, infectious energy, musical skill, and humor that scores with the target audience but has its sly references that will tickle their parents' funny bones as well. Check out their Web site – www.biscuitbrothers.com – for album covers that are picture-perfect parodies of *Meet the Beatles* and *Saturday Night Fever* or the moody photo in the gallery that represents the brothers' alt.country portrait. Like the Muppets and Bullwinkle, the Biscuits are simultaneously silly and smart.

Small wonder, then, that the show has generated a lot of interest and enough backing for Robertson, Schoolar, and Brown to produce a season of episodes. Local PBS affiliate KLRU is on board with Biscuits and will premiere the pilot this weekend with a live in-studio appearance by the Biscuit boys. Then in the spring of 2005, the series will become a staple in the station's Saturday morning lineup.

Now is a good time to turn on the wee one in your world – or your own inner preteen-er – to this homegrown treat, before the whole world is hungry for Biscuits.

The pilot episode of the Biscuit Brothers will air Saturday, Dec. 4, 10am, on KLRU. For more information, visit www.biscuitbrothers.com.

THE THREE SCROOGES

Nothing says Yuletide like a hot, steaming mug of "Bah, humbug," and Austin theatre companies are dishing up plenty of it this season. At least three different productions of *A Christmas Carol* are opening this week, with one of them sure to please the discriminating Dickens-lover in your household. For homegrown traditional Scrooge, try the Austin Playhouse, which is reviving the original adaptation created by local playwright Ellsworth Schave and Playhouse Artistic Director Don Toner when Toner was at the State Theater. It features an original score by Allen Robertson and Tom Parker as London's biggest skinflint. For new, imported Scrooge, head on over to the State Theater, where Artistic Director Scott Kanoff is treating Austin to its first look at an adaptation by Neil Bartlett that was a hit in Dickens' homeland a few years ago. Michelle Polgar directs David Stahl as the miser who's as solitary as an oyster. For fresh and spicy Scrooge, you want the Vortex, where one-man theatre company Rob Nash is premiering his solo take on the tale, which sounds like the all-star film version Hollywood didn't have the nerve to make back in the day. Nash plays Scrooge naturally, but as Bette Davis might have played Scrooge, and he embodies a host of other cinematic icons in the story's familiar roles, similarly cast across gender, so it's Joan



Crawford as Jacob Marley and Katharine Hepburn as Bob Cratchit, while Cary Grant is Bob's missus and Humphrey Bogart is Scrooge's old flame, Belle. Expect, as his title suggests, *A Christmas Carol Roasting on an Open Fire*. Oh, a wise guy, eh? Nyuk, nyuk, nyuk! – R.F.

A Christmas Carol runs Dec. 2-18, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at Austin Playhouse at Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress. For information, call 476-0084 or visit www.austinplayhouse.com.

A Christmas Carol runs Dec. 3-18, Wednesday-Friday, 7:30pm, Saturday, 4 & 8pm (no 4pm show Dec. 4), Sunday, 2:30pm, at the State Theater, 719 Congress. For information, visit www.austintheatre.org.

A Christmas Carol Roasting on an Open Fire runs Dec. 3-Jan. 2, Thursday-Sunday, 8pm, at the Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd. For information, call 478-LAVA or visit www.vortexrep.org.

In Memoriam: ROBERT ELLIS PATTERSON

Robert Ellis Patterson, artist and owner of the Robert Ellis Patterson Gallery in South Austin, died Friday, Nov. 19. He was 34. A native of Lubbock, he took to art at an early age and made it the focus of his life. He was particularly inspired by the abstract impressionists of the New York School (Pollock, de Kooning, Motherwell, Kline, Rothko, et al.), but to his own paintings he added words and phrases that would give a positive or uplifting message to the viewer, dubbing them Inspirational Abstractions. Patterson moved to New York City and worked for several contemporary art galleries there. In 1995, he returned to Texas, living in Austin and Dallas. It was here that he opened the Austin Modern Art Gallery and the Robert Ellis Patterson Gallery to showcase his own work. Patterson is survived by his mother and father, Jeannie and Tommy Patterson of Lubbock; his brother, Eddy Patterson; and his fiancée, Kirsten Orr, of Austin. A memorial service was held



Nov. 22 at the Robert Ellis Patterson Gallery, 3520 S. Lamar. Memorials should be sent to the Louise Underwood Endowment for the Arts, www.lubbockareaFOUNDATION.org. – R.F.

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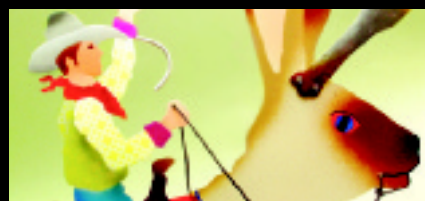
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**'LOUNGE!' TRANSFORMS ARTHOUSE
INTO A SPACE THAT SWINGS**
BY ROBERT FAIRES

When we look at art or talk about art or even listen to other people talk about art, we come at it from the ground up. We're standing on our legs or sitting on something that does the job of our legs, supporting us from underneath, pushing up from the floor or ground, to which we're rooted. It's really no different from so much of the rest of our lives, in our classrooms, in our offices, in our homes. Bend down to knee level and look across the space you're in; it's the same in almost every room: all legs. In fact, it's so common that we don't even think about it, about being so earthbound. But it colors and influences the way we move and work and act and interact, how we receive information and even how we observe and appreciate beauty.

Now, what if you were able to erase all those legs? You still have the seats, still have the tables and desks to work from, but they're all hovering above the floor. You'd be

give even a Scandinavian architect pause – the tables are essentially flat boards and the seats little more than two planks bolted together at right angles – but they're attached to the metal lighting grid on the ceiling in a way that allows them to swing back and forth and, in the case of the seats for individuals, to swivel a full 360 degrees.

That may not sound like much, and when you first see it, it may not even look like much – hell, it's a roomful of swings, and what's so remarkable about that? But when you're *in* it, actually sitting in one of the swings yourself, with other people who are also in the swings, then it becomes this surprisingly enjoyable, invigorating experience. It feels *different* than a classroom or office or library. There's a sense of the world being oriented differently, from the sky down instead of the ground up. It's a looser, less formal, and more flexible world. None of that imposed order and immobility, the

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liberated from the ground, free to listen to, look at, work on, play with, consider the world around you, from the openness of the air. Think about how you feel suspended in space: lighter, less encumbered, more relaxed, and yet also more energized, playful. It's the feeling of a swing, that of the front porch and that of the school yard.

That's what awaits you at Arthouse right now. The 3,000-square-foot exhibition area of the Jones Center for Contemporary Art has been transformed into a large open room in which tables, desks, and seating for 60 people all hang from the ceiling by cables. All of the pieces are made of birch plywood and are so spare of design as to

lines of chairs and columns of desks locked rigidly in place. The seats are arranged but not in stiff geometric patterns. They're all over the space, some in small groups, some apart, almost private. The arrangement shows uncommon sensitivity to space, with lots of breathing room around the seats, so that in a cluster of swings or even at a table, you can feel solitude, room for reflection. But the distance is manageable enough that you can swing over it for an intimate chat with someone in an adjacent swing.

At least that's what I found myself doing during the talk by Matthew Geller, the New York artist who designed this installation for Arthouse (which he has whimsically titled

sixty weak knees). As he showed slides of some of his other work – projected, by the way, on one of the tables, which was turned on its side and hung so it could serve as a screen – I gently rocked back and forth, in a constant, almost meditative motion that would have been disturbing in a traditional environment but, as I noticed in looking around me, was the norm here. It was as if we were all on our personal little porch swings, with all the sense of serenity and neighborliness and perhaps nostalgia that association brings with it, but by virtue of being in this common space, we were all swinging together. Which is what made it feel perfectly okay to lean over in the direction of Arthouse Director Sue Graze to offer a comment on the program. Because of the physical setup, I was able to – and inclined to – interact with others in the space in ways I might not have otherwise.

That was precisely what Regine Basha and Kevin Alter had in mind when they conceived "Lounge!," the Arthouse exhibition of which *sixty weak knees* is the centerpiece. Basha, an adjunct curator at Arthouse, and Alter, associate dean of the UT School of Architecture, shared an interest in how communities interact with art and architecture, and they wanted to find a way to carry the topic to a larger audience, to set up a forum for discussion in which talks would be given and films shown and dialogues entered into

but in which the space itself would generate that discussion. To that end, they concocted a proposal for artists to design the space for this Arthouse forum, a "lounge," they called it, trusting the artists to interpret that word in any way they chose. The only stipulations they made were that the designs had to accommodate the screening of films and a fairly large number of people.

Of course, Basha and Alter had no idea that their lounge would take the form of a roomful of swings. They didn't know what to expect from the responses. All they hoped was that they would be inventive and different. On that score, they were not disappointed. One proposed using dozens of soft sculpture columns that could be repositioned to create temporary walls or benches or bleachers. Another suggested turning the interior of Arthouse into an old-fashioned drive-in, with a movie screen on one wall and real cars jammed into the space pointing at it. Proposals were based on sound, on the original topography of the site, on the idea of an "anti-lounge." In all, 25 proposals came in, each one coming at the concept of "Lounge!" from a very different – and imaginative – angle. Fortunately for us, Basha and Alter have displayed them in the office exhibition space of the Jones Center. They offer some tantalizing alternatives to *sixty weak knees*.

continued on p.50



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But once the curators saw Geller's proposal, the other submissions were doomed to be just alternatives. *sixty weak knees* connected with their vision in a way that was immediately captivating. Its design combined simplicity and elegance and subtlety, and the roughness of it was very much in keeping with the raw character of the space. Those swings seemed to belong among the exposed brick and metal beams. And Geller took care to address where they belonged in the space, putting deliberate thought in their placement but leaving enough flexibility so they could be moved for different events. The artist had put considerable effort into his design – he told the Arthouse audience that he determined the height for the swings after measuring every chair in his own house to see what height they were – and it showed. The curators consulted with a local engineer, Jerry Garcia, to evaluate the feasibility of the proposal, and once he gave it the green light, *sixty weak knees* moved toward reality. With the phenomenal contributions of artists Jason Singleton and James Brandon, the swings were built and installed over a week in mid-November, and the exhibition opened on the 20th of the month.

Since then, the installation has been gathering curious stares from folks peering through the wall-sized window that fronts the space, wondering if the museum there has given way to a furniture showroom.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Geller acknowledged the installation's utilitarian appearance, joking that it "looks like some perverse IKEA thing." People wander in, slowly maneuvering about the swings, wondering if it's really okay to sit in them, then tentatively testing them out. But when they settle in and push off and those feet leave the floor, a change takes place in them, a softening of their demeanor, an easing. They've let gravity slip from their shoulders and found a new place to be, and to be with others, communing in the air. ■

"Lounge!" continues through Jan. 16 at Arthouse, 700 Congress. For more information, call 453-5312 or visit www.arthousetexas.org

'LOUNGE!' ACTION

With "Lounge!," the space is just the beginning of the conversation about the community's interaction with art and architecture. The curators have provided a sampling of books on art and architecture for visitors to sit and read, and they've provided iPods on site for listening to audio art by Weightless Animals (Mandy McIntosh, Kaffe Matthews, Zeena Parkins), William Basinski, Emanuel Madan, Christian Manzutto, Steve Roden, David Schafer, Luz María Sánchez, Jude Tallichet, Stephen Vitiello and collaborations, and Paolo Vivacqua, as well as a new audio magazine, *The Relay Project*. And the following programs are also being presented. All take place at the Jones Center for Contemporary Art, 700 Congress. For more information, call 453-5312 or visit www.arthousetexas.org. – R.F.

SHOW AND TELL WITH TARA CARLISLE

The director of the UT School of Architecture's Materials Lab talks about the latest materials used in architecture and design. For more information on the Materials Lab, visit wnt.cc.utexas.edu/%7Eematlab. Thursday, Dec. 2, 7pm

AMODA PERFORMANCE 4 @ "LOUNGE!"

The Austin Museum of Digital Art presents Chicago artist Olivia Block performing experimental music with the Austin New Music Coop. For more information, visit www.amoda.org. Sunday, Dec. 5, 8pm

RADICAL ACTS OF ARCHITECTURE

Arthouse screens Gordon Matta Clark's "Splitting" (1973), Christo and Jeanne-Claude's "Valley Curtain" (1972), and Ant Farm's "Media Burn" (1975). Thursday, Dec. 9, 7pm

SOCIAL EXPERIMENTS

Arthouse screens *The Rural Studio Film*, about Samuel Mockbee's visionary architecture in Alabama (1999); *My Father, the Genius*, about Glen Small and sustainable architecture; and a film by Lucia Small (2001). Thursday, Dec. 16, 7pm

SLIDE JAM

Thursday, Jan. 6, 7pm

THE CLASSICS

Arthouse screens the Charles and Ray Eames films *Powers of Ten* (1977) and *House: After Five Years of Living* (1955). Thursday, Jan. 13, 7pm

KEVIN S. ALTER

The associate dean of the UT School of Architecture discusses the blurring boundaries of art, architecture, and design. Sunday, Jan. 16, 3pm

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SPEAK, SO YOU CAN SPEAK AGAIN: THE LIFE OF ZORA NEALE HURSTON

by Lucy Anne Hurston
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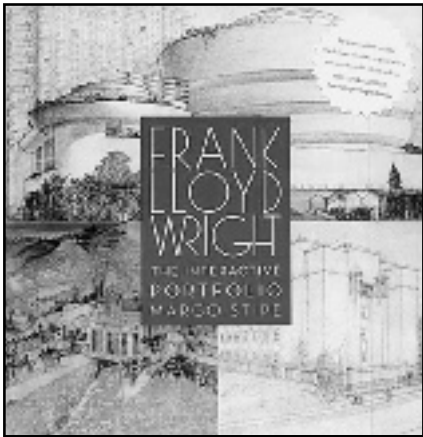
FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT: THE INTERACTIVE PORTFOLIO

by Margo Stipe
Running Press, \$40

As cat-butt magnets and Jesus action figures threaten our once-sacred temples of the written word, display space for Items Ex Libris is tight. Novelty and coffeetable books filled yesterday's gift gap, but a new trend in books offers a happy medium between the "sublime" of intellectual stimulation and the "ridiculous" of random consumer addiction. This trend is yet unnamed, but for our purposes, we'll call them "kits."

Book kits are the logical extension of inserting newspaper clippings, photos, or even crushed flowers as time-capsule keepsakes between pages. Like colorful Christie's books loaded with pictures of original artifacts (*Personal Property of Marilyn Monroe* comes to mind), these kits provide armchair museum tours for aficionado and dilettante alike.

An early purveyor of this format was editor Phyllis Johnson and her multimedia "magazine," *Aspen*. Published in the mid-Sixties, the third issue was an Andy Warhol-designed, detergent-inspired box loaded with Velvet Underground souvenir reproductions:



prints of paintings, LSD trip coupons, a flexi-disc, and more. Perhaps inspired by this now-collectible gem, Chronicle Books released *Andy Warhol Pop Box* in 2002, a collection of similar Warholana.

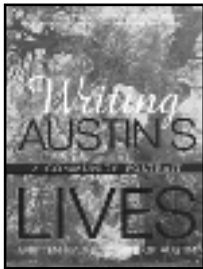
This fall, two releases, *Speak, So You Can Speak Again: The Life of Zora Neale Hurston*, compiled by her niece, Lucy Anne Hurston, and *Frank Lloyd Wright: The Interactive Portfolio* by Wright archivist Margo Stipe, stand out as fine examples of the new genre's potential.

Feminist icon Hurston is a figure steeped in intrigue. Raised in the all-black Eatonville, Fla., this slacks-wearing, thrice-married Harlem Renaissance dynamo penned the classic *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. The tokens within this kit – a CD of Hurston's voice in word and song, a reproduction of her hand-designed holiday card, charred drafts, and rare photos – provide a sassy backdrop to a mysterious literary life.

The Wright kit is likewise a personal journey behind the scenes of this architectural god. Culled from the also thrice-married and controversial Wright's official archive, this collection is an unflinching look at the man behind the sketches, personal letters, and blueprints reproduced within. Stipe's prose dignifies serious students of design while not overwhelming the curious or new fan.

There's nothing quite like genuine drafts and scribbles in the author's hand. Now, with these new-fangled kits, fans can hold approximations while walking the fine line between commercial appeal and literary merit. What a great gift idea. Unless, of course, your intended giftee is aching for another cat-butt magnet. – Kate X Messer

like living where they live. You think that'll give you a good idea of the urban environment? You think that'll provide a definite sense of place? If you do, you're right. And there's a new book called *Writing Austin's Lives* for supportive evidence. *Writing Austin's Lives* is a hefty trade paperback of more than 400 pages, with an elegant foil-embossed cover and an interior of autobiographical, city-centric stories from the variegated spectrum of Austin life. Almost 800 citizens responded to a five-month call for stories from the University of Texas Humanities Institute, responded "in crayon, on thin, yellowed sheets of typing paper, in stacks from teachers and writing groups, in envelopes covered with fancy, old stamps, and in envelopes stuffed with photographs." All ages, all genders, all ethnicities, all social strata, all you-name-it, sent in pieces of their lives. Now 127 of those shards of the human mirror have been joined – thanks to the efforts of the Humanities Institute and the Austin History Center – to offer a multifaceted reflection of this progressive, backward, caring, indifferent, ultimately paradoxical, and ever-changing city by the river. – Wayne Alan Brenner



WRITING AUSTIN'S LIVES

by the people of Austin
Waterloo Press, 412 pp., \$17.95 (paper)

You want to know what a city's like, who you gonna ask? Some sharply tailored real estate booster with a storefront tan and a cash register where his heart should be? Some dope-smoking cholo blasting Las 3 Piratas from the speakers of his lowrider? Some scruffy, patchouli-drenched poet with accidental dreads, a rusty nose ring, and her voice hoarse from one too many open mics? Maybe some old gimme-capped cracker who eats pork rinds while watching endless reruns of *Wheel of Fortune*? Possibly some African-American professor of feminist theory who wears Birkenstocks and has a lifetime membership to aGLIFF? You really want to know what a city's like, why don't you ask all of them? Or, rather, ask the real people behind and between those stereotypes: Ask as many of the citizens, in all their diversity, as time, energy, and funding will allow. Ask those citizens to write their stories, to give their unique, indivisible perspectives about what it's

BIG BOOKS: Part one

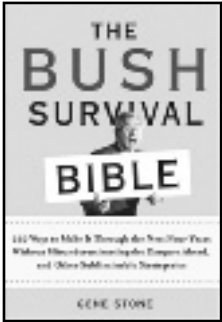


THE BUSH SURVIVAL BIBLE

250 Ways to Make It Through the Next Four Years Without Misunderestimating the Dangers Ahead, and Other Sublimable Strategies

by Gene Stone
Villard, 160 pp., \$9.99 (paper)

There are weighty books that, when gifted, say, "I thought long and hard to find a substantive and personal present for you." *The Bush Survival Bible* is decidedly not one of



them. This doesn't mean that the thin volume won't make a cute stocking stuffer, but don't be surprised if you visit your friends and find that it's become bathroom reading material. It's clear that the author of the book was cognizant that there was only a 50% chance of its becoming relevant, and the result is a rather inconsistent collection of "advice" from "experts" on how to survive Bush's second term. Most chapters weigh in at fewer than five pages and attempt to counter "post-election stress disorder" with humor, the result of which is pretty hit-or-miss. A chapter titled "9 People Worse Than Bush" implies that reading bizarrely offhand blurbs about totalitarian dictators more evil than G.W. will somehow be soothing. Personally, reading a second-grade-level paragraph about Nicolae Ceausescu's reign of terror over Romania doesn't exactly make me feel cheerier about the world going down the toilet. Another chapter offers Bush-related spoofs on movie titles that wouldn't even be sophisticated enough to make it into *Cracked Magazine* (it still exists, I checked). Other, more well-intentioned chapters give advice on how to become politically active or, in turn, become an expatriate. Probably a good gift for the somewhat uninformed but earnest teenager in your life. – Jess Sauer

UNFORGIVABLE BLACKNESS: THE RISE AND FALL OF JACK JOHNSON

by Geoffrey C. Ward
Knopf, 492 pp., \$26.95

Weighing in at 492 pages, *Unforgivable Blackness* is a real contender for the best book of boxing lit since Nick Tosches' *The Devil and Sonny Liston*. Liston's story is of the Fifties and Sixties, however, while Johnson, born in 1878, came blazing onto the American scene in the first decades of the 20th century – Jim Crow America, that is, when a black man could get lynched for just looking at a white woman. And forget dreaming about actually competing in a white man's sport, even the brutal combat

inside the squared circle. Johnson not only became the first black heavyweight champion of the world, but was a white-chick magnet. He flaunted it, openly covorting with milk-skinned honeys in his hot cars and marrying a few, too. Johnson was an imperfect hero, of course, and the backlash that he flirted with did indeed erupt. But what the hell. A companion piece to Ken Burns' PBS documentary on Johnson, the book is not without its flaws, either, at times glossing over a few of the story's inconvenient nuances, but it's still a knockout. Great writing about American boxers is great American lit, about coming up from small means and accomplishing the impossible, and Ward deserves a TKO here. – Jesse Sublett



AMERICA'S GAME: THE EPIC STORY OF HOW PRO FOOTBALL CAPTURED A NATION

by Michael MacCambridge
Random House, 576 pp., \$27.95

MacCambridge opens this fascinating history of the NFL with a quote from Jacques Barzun, who claimed in 1954 that "whoever wants to know the heart and mind of America better know baseball."

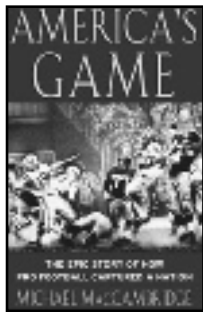
Fast forward to a 2003 Harris Poll, and MacCambridge finds that pro football fans now outnumber baseball fans by a two-to-one margin. How did a relatively minor – and extremely violent – sport become America's game? The answer lies in a curious synergy between media monopolies, greedy businessmen, and quasi-socialist policies implemented by the NFL's commissioner-king, Pete Rozelle.

Brace yourself, football fans: The NFL's ascendancy over the sporting landscape has more to do with television and corporate power-brokering (in 1961 CBS secured an antitrust exemption from the Kennedy administration for exclusive rights to all NFL games) than its inherent superiority as a sport. To argue that football looks better on TV, says MacCambridge, "is to argue apples are better than oranges." Equally spurious, MacCambridge claims, is the idea that football "appeals to some deep-seeded bloodlust of the American sports fan."

MacCambridge's provocative history of the NFL focuses more on legendary owners, coaches, and commissioners than on well-known players. To understand the NFL, MacCambridge suggests, one must understand men like Cleveland coach Paul Brown, the namesake of the Cleveland Browns. Brown jettisoned pathos-ridden clichés about "heart," "leadership," and "character" for a scientific approach to the game and his players, whom he submitted to a weekly "flaw report."

"We're taking the guesswork out of football," Brown once said. "We're making a science out of what is called a game."

Put that in your pipe and smoke it, Jacques Barzun. – Russell Cobb



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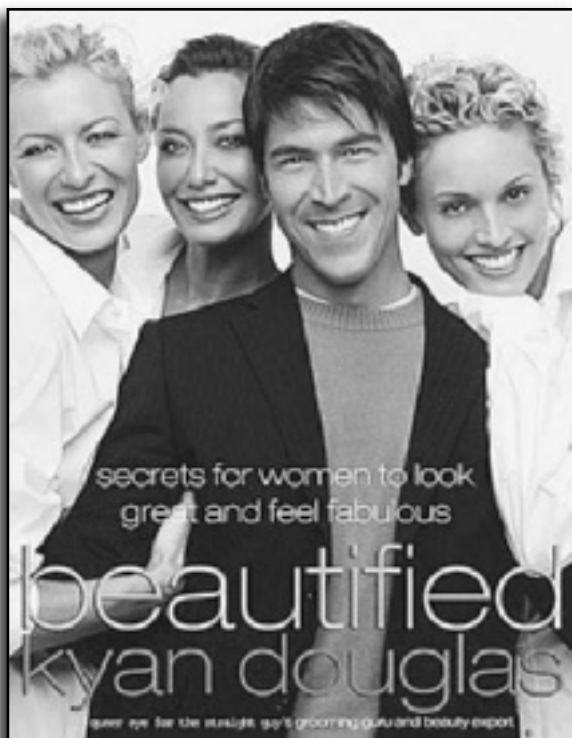
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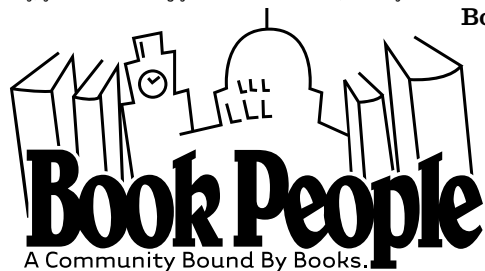
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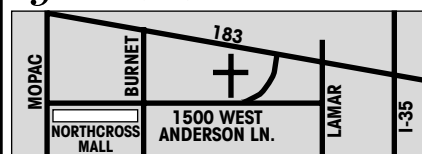
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after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

RUNAWAY RUNWAY There is an unfortunate misconception that **Your Style Avatar** is obliged to promote and/or attend every little fashion presentation that comes down the pike. It is an incorrect assumption. I recently had an unpleasant e-mail from a publicist regarding my failure to mention her tenuously fashion-related charity event for a *second* time in my column. Apparently unaware that I'd already mentioned her event *once*, she registered her disappointment with me in an aggressively worded epistle, practically demanding that I run an item in my next column. I was stunned by this misstep and executed the coup de grâce of sending her the link to the previous mention. I can't explain why, but my interest in her event dwindled and I forgot to mention it ever again and for the rest of my life.

The fact of the matter is that I *love* to review fashion shows but stopped trying to attend all of them a couple of years ago. I have occasionally missed shows that I regretted terribly, but not many.

I skip some of them because I already know exactly what we'll be seeing (and have seen already), and some I skip because I know from the people participating that the show is going to be a nightmare. Often these are nightclub fashion shows, which I loathe. The atmosphere and the crowds attracted by nightclubs are not my idea of a serious fashion venue.

There was a fashion show at a magazine party a couple of years ago that I begged one of the people involved to get me tickets to because I knew it was going to be so absolutely wretched that I just had to see it. Of course, I shredded it in this column, laying out its guts for the world to see, but only for the sheer entertainment (and enlightenment) of my readers. The reality is that if the public hadn't read about it in my col-

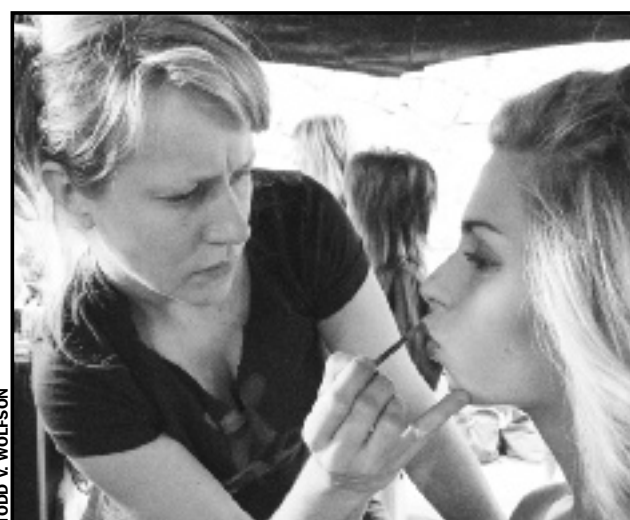
umn, they never would have heard about it at all, so I felt I provided a community service by this warning.

I worship that kind of badness in a twisted sort of way – sort of like the same way I worship *Showgirls*. But as with *Showgirls*, I can only bear its badness every once in a while.

I was even involved in an absolutely hideous fashion show about four years ago. Even though I had been involved, I was deeply embarrassed and had nothing nice to say about it publicly.

And woe is me if I give a bad review to a fashion presentation that is a benefit. The producers always gasp and say, "But it's for *charity*!" Like that makes it sacred. If you're going to throw a show to raise money for a charity (which is so often an after-thought to the show), don't you think your donors deserve the best you can give them? Perhaps your best doesn't really make for a good fashion show, but don't let that stop you! Sure, to *you*, your skills in whatever (producing, directing, publicity, design, retailing, choreography) are in top form. As we *know* from recent experience, anyone can produce a fashion show. Still, unless you're presenting to aliens who have never seen a fashion show before, you're better off assembling a team of professionals to guide you (people who have actually already done that kind of work for a fashion show). Otherwise, I consider it fair game.

Then again, fashion is only part of what I like to talk about. Longtime readers know that from my very first column more than five years ago, "After a Fashion" has been an opinion column primarily and that I consider all subjects to be fair game. Unfortunately, the title "After a Fashion" is interpreted too literally sometimes, and it is often implied that if I don't attend Brand X fashion event, then I'm not doing my job. To me, "After a



TODD V. WOLFSON

Fashion shows – more than just a pretty face

Fashion" translates to *In My Own Style*, and that, my devoted readers, is the only thing I guarantee.

HAND-Y I've told you about the locally made **Margarita Manicure** before, but I'll tell you again: I think this product is your hands' best friend. Developed by **Derrick Amoriko**, it is a combination of sea salt, shea butter, jojoba oil, and safflower oil; the mixture has a tart lime flavor that makes it look and smell like a soothing cocktail. You know how refreshing a smart margarita can be for your spirit; now you can let it do the same for your hands. Amoriko's new product is **Vanilla Dreams**, an incredibly fragrant brown-sugar body scrub. Margarita Manicure is available now at **Nails Time** (3918 Far West, 502-1970), and both products can soon be purchased at www.geocities.com/amorikospa/copy.

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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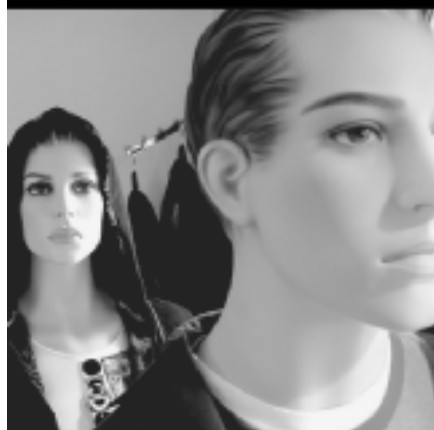
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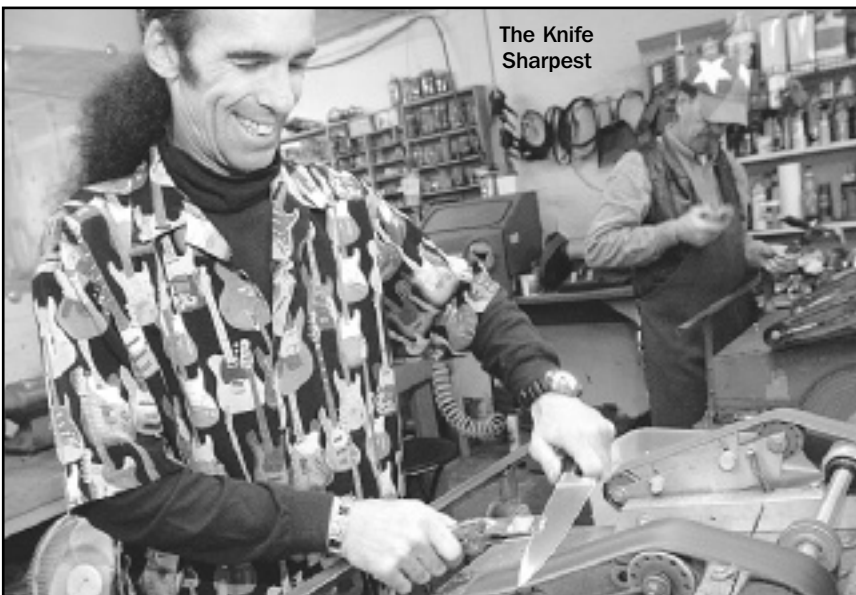
THE HOLIDAYS OUTSIDE THE BOX: UNIQUE GIFT IDEAS FOR YOUR FAVORITE CULINARIANS



This year, instead of gadgets, cookware, or cutlery, what about surprising the foodies and wine lovers on your Christmas list with the gift of a service they might never think to purchase for themselves? The always-intrepid *Chronicle* food staff has a stellar list of service suggestions, everything from knife-sharpening to soup delivery, kitchen gardens to culinary excursions. Follow our lead, and this could be the year you cover yourself with glory by coming up with a unique and special gift for the foodie who has everything.

— Virginia B. Wood

JOHN ANDERSON



The Knife Sharpest

CRAIG THIBODEAU DOMESTIC ARTS

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When the myriad details and pressures of today's busy world become too overwhelming, we sometimes fantasize about hiring someone who could organize our life, manage the household, tend the pets when we're out of town, make sophisticated and informed interior design suggestions, wrangle the remodeling contractors, or plan and execute a cocktail party. Would it really be possible to find one person equipped with the panoply of skills necessary to provide all these services, you ask? Craig Thibodeau can do it all, and he's available! With his new company, Domestic Arts, Craig is putting all his creative talents and his years of hospitality management experience at the public's disposal. He's the go-to guy who can solve any and all household, design, and hospitality problems.

— V.B.W.

THE KNIFE SHARPEST

4703 Burnet Rd., 467-9763

I often find myself cooking in other people's kitchens, and I learned long ago to always bring along my own knife. Why? Because the condition of most knives in most kitchens is abysmal. And trying to cut anything with a dull knife is tedious, hard work yielding unsatisfactory results, not to mention the fact that you're much

more likely to cut yourself with a dull blade rather than a sharp one.

Keeping knives in peak condition is a skill that few people cultivate anymore, although a sharp, serviceable knife undoubtedly is the most valuable and useful tool in anyone's *batterie de cuisine*. Fortunately, there are people who specialize in keeping knives sharp, so how about saving your loved ones' fingers with the gift of sharpened knives for a holiday present?

Graham Stuckey of the Knife Sharpest has been in the knife-sharpening business for 15 years, and he'll fix up kitchen knives for \$3 apiece (\$4 for serrated). He not only offers gift certificates, but he'll also bring a mobile unit to what he calls "backyard get-togethers," where a group of friends or neighbors gather for a knife-sharpening party. Sounds like fun, doesn't it?

— MM Pack

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My choice of a service to provide for friends (or yourself for that matter) is one that will keep on giving for years to come, and will greatly benefit your culinary prowess. There are several nurseries and landscape companies that can come to the house, take some measurements, consult with

the occupants about what and how they cook, figure out how bad the deer herbivory problem might be (although deer hate herbs), and install an herb garden, a kitchen garden, or an edible landscape.

For a kitchen garden or an herb garden, it will get used more often if it's located close to the cooking area, so it's easy to harvest while being close to the stove. For herbs and vegetables in general, you want an area that gets full sun and has good drainage. Surprisingly, there is a huge range of herbs and veggies that can be grown in Austin, and our mild winters enable a lush crop year-round, even for annual plants. You just need to determine what you'd actually use if it were installed.

Edible landscapes involve the use of plants with decorative value that also provide kitchen use: fruit trees, large- to medium-scale herbs (bay laurel, Mexican oregano, rosemary, annuals, etc.). It's surprising how decorative a row of the multicolored "Northern Lights" Chard looks in the landscape, and being able to go out and harvest leaves at will is frosting on the cake.

Figuring out how much you want to spend is the first big step, and it can range anywhere from a large planted pot all the way up to a big installation. Next is determining the possibilities of what's desired versus the limitations of the site.

— Mick Vann

SEASONS OF MY HEART COOKING SCHOOL CULINARY GETAWAY

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If you are looking for the perfect gift for a lover of indigenous Mexican culture and cuisine, I recommend classes at Seasons of My Heart cooking school in Oaxaca. Their yearly schedule includes several options.

One-day classes include a visit to a nearby village, mercado, and craft person's home or shop. Then, it's back to the cooking school for feast preparations using recipes honoring the village visited earlier that day.

The long weekend or weeklong class options are the way to go. You will see markets, craftsmen, and fiestas, and you'll get to know the village culture. The places you'll see just won't be found in guidebooks. During the longer classes, odds are good that you will make cheese, chocolate, and many other local delicacies by hand. The week culminates in a fiesta dinner with specialties from the villages surrounding Oaxaca City.

For mushroom lovers, I suggest a foraging class. We spent a day in the cloud for-

continued on p.58

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Congratulations to Austin chocolatier **Tom Pedersen**, who e-mailed with the news that his **Cocoa Puro Chocolates** are now available at **GrapeVine Market, Breed & Co.**, and **Gardens**. And our sincerest apologies to generations of his Danish ancestors for misspelling his name in a previous column... Additional information about **Kelty Christman's** recent Paella Party came in after press time two weeks ago and was unfortunately omitted from that story the first time around. **Karina Falbo** describes herself as the "master chef" who did the cooking for the team that took the runner-up prize, and **Cristina Carrasco** was the third judge... Though we didn't hear about the benefit for ailing **Güero's** (1412 S. Congress, 447-7688) bartender **Jim Keating** until after it was over, the management there assures us it's still possible for Keating's longtime friends and customers to make

donations at the restaurant office to help with his living and medical expenses following a serious illness... Talented local chef/restaurateur couple **Emmett** and **Lisa Fox** have just signed a lease on the upstairs space at 29th and San Gabriel to be vacated by **Granite Cafe** (2905 San Gabriel, 472-6483) at the end of the month. The Foxes will open a Mediterranean restaurant there in the late spring... Austin's premier pastry chef, **Tony Sansalone**, has recently left the **Four Seasons** and will soon open his own full-service pastry and coffee shop specializing in distinctive wedding cakes. He's busy refurbishing the near-downtown spot that was formerly home to **Rather Sweet** and plans for the new shop, **Sansalone's** (814 W. 12th), to debut at the beginning of the year... And now that he's found a tenant for the bakery, look for **Ranch 616** (616 Nueces, 479-7616) owner **Kevin Williamson** to go full steam ahead with his plans to turn the **Clement Paint** store next door to the Ranch into a bar called the **Rattle Inn** some time next year... Pizza lovers in Westlake have been raving about how pleased they are to have **Pizza Nizza** (2712 Bee Caves Rd., 474-7070) in the neighborhood for takeout, delivery, and catering. Same good pizza, pasta, and salads with a greatly expanded service area.

EVENT MENU DEC. 3-9

🕒 The **Austin Children's Museum** (201 Colorado, 472-2499) offers Gingerbread House Workshops for birthday parties, business groups, and families. The cost is \$30 and \$25 for museum members. Take-home decorating kits are also available. For more information or to make reservations, call the museum. Now through Dec. 22.

🕒 **Texas Culinary Academy** (11400 Burnet Rd., 289-5589) hosts the annual Gingerbread House Competition this weekend with categories for professionals, adult amateurs, teens, and kids under 12. There will also be a cake-decorating demonstration by **Kerry Vincent**, who will sign copies of her new book, *Romantic Wedding Cakes*. Noon, Sunday, Dec. 5.

est in a village called Cuajimoloyas. Here, the indigenous population runs ecotourism tours through land they collectively own. Our guide helped us gather lunch and demonstrated how to tap the mushroom and replace the loam so that next year more mushrooms will grow in the same area. After foraging, we were treated to a feast using our gathered mushrooms, cooked in our guide's home.

What makes Susana's classes different from other cooking classes is that you feel a part of the local culture. It isn't sterile; it sometimes takes you out of your comfort zone, and you become part of whatever village you are visiting. She teaches the authentic ingredients needed to make the dishes truly Oaxacan, but then will help you with substitutions so you can re-create the magic of Oaxaca back home.

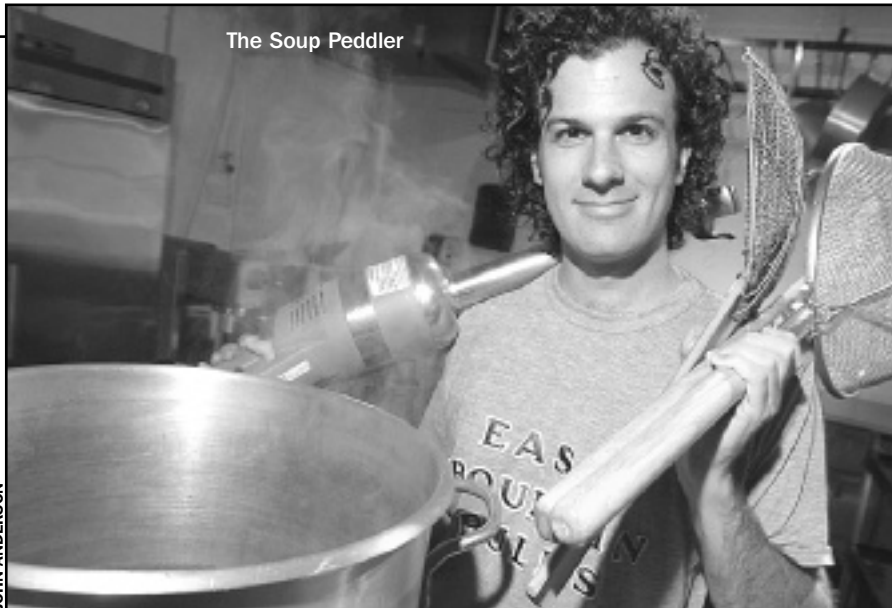
— Amber O'Connor

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JOHN ANDERSON



The Soup Peddler

ers, or people who are just too busy to cook for themselves, but nevertheless appreciate real, homemade food. Cyclist, environmen-

talist, chef, and foodie David Ansel has been bicycle-delivering his delicious soups in Austin for three years. A proponent of the slow-food movement, Ansel tries to use seasonal, organic ingredients in all his soups. Recent soups include Cedar Key chowder, mushroom barley, and spicy Moroccan harira soup. Get on their e-mail list, or go to their Web site to find out what's cooking each week. Then place your order by e-mail. The soup peddler delivers to most inner-city neighborhoods. Pick-up at their store on South First can be arranged for those who live outside of central Austin. Soup comes in half-gallon portions (5-6 servings) and ranges from \$15-20.

— Rachel Feit

IS LA VARENNE THE BEST GIFT EVER?

Food and travel are perfectly paired for holiday gift-giving. Austin foodies with a taste for adventure of the culinary kind can immerse themselves in three- and five-day cooking programs at La Varenne in Burgundy, France, this summer with celebrated cookbook author Anne Willan.

Students are guests in Willan's home, a magnificent 17th-century chateau surrounded by 100 acres of rolling hills overlooking the Yonne River valley and located about 90 miles south of Paris. Château du Feÿ is equipped with a fully outfitted cooking school, swimming pool, gardens, and tennis court. The programs include cooking classes, cheese and wine tastings, artisan bread-baking demonstrations and excursions to vineyards, French markets, and Michelin-starred restaurants.

Cooking classes are designed for the home chef and include hands-on and demo classes with a focus on French cooking techniques. The program is all-inclusive excluding travel to/from Paris. Students are picked up in Paris and whisked away to the chateau where days are spent eating, drinking, cooking, and shopping while gaining firsthand experience of today's food and wine scene in France with Willan as an amicable and knowledgeable guide.

In 2005, the five-day La Varenne Master Class program will be July 3-8 and Sept. 11-16 for \$3,245 per person. The three-day Taste of Burgundy program will be June 19-22, July 10-13, and Sept. 4-7 for \$1,675 per person. For more information, contact Cathy Cochran-Lewis at 322-9743 or www.lavarenne.com.

— Cathy Cochran-Lewis

COOKING CLASSES

Each of the following offers gift certificates.

CENTRAL MARKET COOKING SCHOOL

North Lamar at 40th, 458-3068

www.centralmarket.com

One of the best cooking schools in the nation, Central Market offers a wide variety of classes, including demonstration, hands-on, and interactive classes, as well as some with international celebrity chefs.

CULINARY ACADEMY OF AUSTIN

2823 Hancock Dr., 451-5743

www.culinaryacademyofaustin.com

Courses include hands-on demonstration and preparation. Topics include kitchen basics, regional cuisine, holiday menus, and baking and pastry techniques.

GINA'S KITCHEN

917 W. 12th, 236-0705

www.ginaskitchen.com

Owner Gina Burchenal calls her classes "food-related entertainment." They can create classes for events like bridal showers, office team-building, and kids' parties.

BATTER UP KIDS

342-8682, www.batterupkids.com

Saturday and Sunday afternoon classes for kids 5-12 years of age. Classes have a special cooking or baking theme. Custom theme classes are available.

ALL IN ONE BAKE SHOP

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www.allinonebakeshop.com

Specialty baking classes for groups with fewer than 16 people. Learn anything from basic cake frosting to making gingerbread houses and wedding cakes.

COOKING BY DESIGN

431-8751, www.cookingbydesign.com

Chef Beth Pav offers a wide range of fun and informative cooking classes in an intimate setting in the Texas Hill Country.

GRAPE VINE MARKET

7938 Great Northern Blvd., 323-5900

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www.naturalepicurean.com

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MÁLAGA TAPAS & BAR

208 W. Fourth, 236-8020

www.malagatapasbar.com

Chef Alex Durán teaches fun, intimate, inexpensive cooking and wine classes, including paella-making. The new season starts the second week in January.

COOKING CLASSES BY MARILYN SCHER

100 Kristy Dr., 328-6622

marilyscher@austin.rr.com

Former dessert chef from Jeffrey's teaches small cooking classes in her own home, with an emphasis on basics and simple, exciting, everyday cooking.

LA CUCINA COOKING SCHOOL

11900 Colleyville Dr., 402-1273

Chef Joan Wood specializes in private Italian and Mediterranean cooking classes for small groups, either at her home or yours. Personalized classes available upon request.

THAI COOKING WITH JAM

694-9796, www.thaicookingwithjam.com

Authentic Thai cooking classes by a native Thai chef in your own home. Classes are for three to eight people, and include a three- or four-course dinner and an optional Asian grocery tour.

— Claudia Alarcón

TEXAS WINE TOURS

329-7007, www.texaswinetours.com

One of the never-ending problems for those of us who love to visit wineries is finding a designated driver. Everyone in the car wants to sample the wares, but a 5-oz. glass of wine has exactly the same kick as a shot of tequila, so a driver can become impaired pretty quickly. One of my favorite services, Texas Wine Tours, solves the problem. For about \$80 a person, they will cart you around in luxury for a full day, and they even arrange special tours and tastings along the way. They have developed an excellent rapport with the wineries, so you get an extra bit of attention when they drive up. Half- or full-day packages are available and vary by the size and style of transport. The best nexus between luxury and price is to put together a group of eight and rent their stretch limo for \$75 per person for an eight-hour day. Got a big group? They have a 24-passenger bus that ends up costing about \$20 per person for the day. There are a few

extra costs involved – the wineries charge tasting fees, you'll have to pay for your lunch, and you'll want to give the driver a tip – but all of these costs will melt away the first time you feel a buzz and realize someone else is doing the driving.

— Wes Marshall



GREG STEINER CELLAR SERVICES

784-1352, gregsteiner@sbcglobal.net

For those of you whose dot-com bubble never burst, here is the ultimate service for the wine aficionado. Local wine expert Greg Steiner (co-founder of GrapeVine Market) sits down with you to find out what your tastes are, what you know about wine, and how adventurous you are, then he sets up a monthly purchasing budget. From there, he stocks your wine cellar, balancing the inventory among wines you love and wines he thinks you'll grow to love, while making sure you have wines that are drinkable now as well as wines for aging. He puts every wine into a personalized database that includes descriptions of what the wine tastes like, where it came from, how much it cost, and what food it goes with, and then prints out a restaurant-style wine list for you to wow your friends with. If that's not enough, he sends out daily educational e-mails, offers custom menu consultations, and throws in a quarterly in-home class for you and your friends. If you are a doctor or lawyer or such, plan on working a couple of hours extra a month to pay for the service.

— W.M.

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Before long, we'll all be tired of Christmas cookies and bored with eggnog. And don't even mention that annual culinary punch line, fruitcake. Still, **food makes a great gift.** So take our advice on some slightly more original choices. Newsweek (Nov. 17th 2003)



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DOWNTOWN

TEX-MEX: ANGIE'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT This homey restaurant serves up Tex-Mex breakfasts and huge \$6 lunch specials. Their incredible homemade corn tortillas are one of their many claims to fame. 900 E. Seventh, 476-5413 \$\$\$

PUB GRUB: B.D. RILEY'S PUB With Irish music, excellent pub grub, and beer by the Imperial Pint (20 oz.), no wonder there are always friendly folks bellied up to the bar. 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: BITTER END BISTRO & BREWERY Chef Reggie Ferguson's eclectic, upscale pub grub is arguably the best in the city and the perfect complement to brewmeister Brian Peters' ales. 311 Colorado, 478-2337 \$\$\$

CAJUN/CREOLE: THE BOILING POT Fresh boiled seafood of every variety: shrimp, blue crabs, oysters on the half shell, crawfish (in season), boudin, gumbo, and red beans & rice. 700 E. Sixth, 472-0985 \$\$\$

FINE DINING: CAFE AT THE FOUR SEASONS An excellent wine list with more than 200 offerings, a high level of service, and an elegant room add up to a sublime dining experience. 98 San Jacinto, 685-8300 \$\$\$\$

ITALIAN: CARMELO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT This old-guard establishment serves a wide selection of traditional Italian dishes. The menu offers numerous entrées from just about every Italian food group. 504 E. Fifth, 477-7497 \$\$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: ATHENIAN GRILL Tasty traditional Greek cuisine. Spit-roasted lamb, chicken, and gyros; an outstanding avgolemono soup; and tangy, creamy feta cheese dressing are among the highlights. 705 Colorado, 482-8988 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: SANTA RITA CANTINA Fresh sauces, rotisserie meats, and a friendly atmosphere make this a welcome new addition to Austin Tex-Mex. 1206 W. 38th, 419-7482 \$\$\$

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: SIENA RISTORANTE TOSCANA Loyal customers from the Loop 360 set enjoy hearty roast meats, homemade pastas, a liberal use of truffle oil, and the glow of a crackling fire. 6203 Capital of TX Hwy., Bldg. B, 349-7667 \$\$\$\$

VIETNAMESE: TAM DELI & CAFE Authentic and exquisitely crafted Viet noodle house fare; particularly strong on appetizers, bun, pho, and desserts. Nice portions, good service, low prices. 8222 N. Lamar, 834-6458 \$

For full reviews and more, see austinchronicle.com/guides/restaurant.

FINE DINING: FINN & PORTER Don't let the fact that it's in a hotel scare you off. Finn & Porter is a gorgeous place with top-notch sushi, inventive seafood, and perfectly cooked prime beef. 500 E. Fourth, 493-4300 \$\$\$\$

STEAKHOUSE: G&M STEAKHOUSE This is the closest thing that Austin has to a real diner. You'll find fresh coffee, some gree-z steak and eggs, and plenty of atmosphere. 626 N. Lamar, 236-9887 \$\$\$

PAN-ASIAN: MARS RESTAURANT & BAR Creative, Asian-inspired cuisine in a cozy, casual fine-dining atmosphere. The food is eclectic, with influences ranging from Thai to Indian to Middle Eastern. Full bar. 1610 San Antonio St., 472-3901 \$\$\$

SEAFOOD: MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S This Portland, Ore.-based chain offers daily changing menus drawn from a "fresh list" of seafood flown in from around the globe. Great apple pie. 401 Congress, 236-9600 \$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: MALAGA Austin's only full-time tapas bar offers a good core selection of the real thing, along with an excellent list of fairly priced wines and sherries. 208 W. Fourth, 236-8020 \$\$\$

DELIVERY, PIZZA: ROPPOLO'S PIZZERIA Roppolo's offers a variety of pies at their downtown location. Whether you're a vegetarian or a carnivore, they know how to pile on the toppings. 316 E. Sixth, 476-1490 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: T.G.I. FRIDAY'S Located in the Radisson hotel, they offer a recognizable, diverse American cafe menu that is comforting to business travelers. 111 E. Cesar Chavez at the Radisson, 478-2991 \$\$\$

THAI: THAI PASSION The sun-lit atrium is the perfect setting to enjoy the light, fresh rendering of the cuisine of Northeast Thailand. 620 Congress, 472-1244 \$\$\$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: TONY'S SOUTHERN COMFORT RESTAURANT A list of stick-to-your-ribs entrées and baskets. Convenient downtown location, good homemade desserts. 1201 E. Sixth, 238-8801 \$\$\$

EAST

TEX-MEX: AMAYA'S TACO VILLAGE More than just a taco joint, this lively spot specializes in breakfast tacos. The big draw here is mouth-watering homemade corn tortillas. 5405 N. I-35, Capital Plaza, 458-2531 \$

TEX-MEX: BEJUICO'S RESTAURANT Cabrito, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours, like the sign outside says, but you can get three squares a day there. 2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878 \$\$\$

SEAFOOD: CAPTAIN'S SEAFOOD & OYSTER BAR A full range of both fried and broiled seafood. Especially popular are the oyster or shrimp diablo appetizers and Captain Dan's Crawfish Pirogue. 5700 N. I-35, 452-1417 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: DARIO'S RESTAURANT Try the fajita omelet with grilled peppers, onions, potatoes, and beans. Que rico! 1800 E. Sixth, 479-8105 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: EASTSIDE CAFE The only restaurant in town with its own enormous garden. That means they serve the freshest salads and vegetables in every season. 2113 Manor Rd., 476-5858 \$\$\$

BURGER JOINT: GUS'S GRILL In addition to great, cheap hamburger baskets, the sampler platter allows you to try almost everything on the menu. 3223 E. Seventh, 385-8898 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: INOCENTE'S CAFE A great place to sip an icy agua de horchata, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. 2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: JOE'S BAKERY & COFFEE SHOP Belly up to the lunch counter for homemade migas, tacos, and award-winning menudo, then to the pastry counter for piedras, novias, cemitas, y capirotada. 2305 E. Seventh, 472-0017 \$

TEX-MEX: PORFIRIO'S TACOS Taco shop serving breakfast and lunch. Carne guisada is their speciality. 1512-B Holly, 476-5030 \$

TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA MORELIA Great fajita special on Wednesdays, 11am-3pm, served in a quiet, relaxing environment. 105 Tillery, 385-8002 \$

LAKE

ITALIAN: CIOLA'S ITALIAN-AMERICAN RESTAURANT The sister restaurant of the Virginia-based original has been pleasing lake dwellers and Hill Country residents with its traditional Italian-American recipes. 1310 Hwy. 620 S., 263-9936 \$\$\$

SOUTHWESTERN: THE OASIS Self-billed as the sunset capital of Texas, the Oasis has decks that are absolutely packed during the twilight summer hours with lake loungers sipping margaritas. 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442 \$\$\$

CHINESE: PAO'S MANDARIN HOUSE Open 24 hours Monday through Friday, this Mandarin restaurant offers daily lunch and dinner specials. 2300 Lohmans Crossing #130, 263-8869 \$\$\$

NORTH

JAPANESE: BENIHANA The cuisine has been inflated by its surroundings, producing the Texas roll, made with smoked salmon, avocado, cucumber, cream cheese, and jalapeño. 9070 Research, 451-7505 \$\$\$

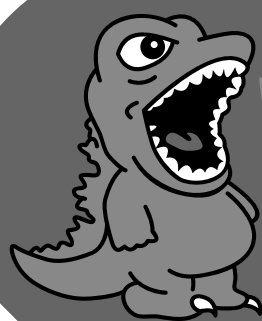
JAPANESE: BLUE FIN SUSHI & ROBATA BAR This small, comfortable restaurant offers good-quality sushi at great prices, grilled robata specialties, and a variety of bento boxes for lunch and dinner. 661 Louis Henna Blvd. #300, 716-1688 \$\$\$

CHAIN, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: EINSTEIN BROS. BAGELS Eighteen flavors of steamed bagels; 11 varieties of shmears; a host of sandwiches served on bagels, challah, or sourdough baguettes; and salads, soups, and roll-ups. 4507 W. Braker, 338-6711 \$

CHINESE: GOLDEN BAY Top-notch dim sum served daily is already attracting customers to this new Cantonese-style restaurant. Steamed whole fish and other seafood are what they do best at lunch and dinner. 8828 Research, 377-2869 \$\$\$

JAPANESE: ORIGAMI Origami is considered one of the top five sushi bars in the area. It's known for its expansive selection of rolls, and the sashimi and sushi menus cover every conceivable want. 110 N. I-35 Ste. 200-B, 238-6522 \$\$\$

continued on p.62



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SEAFOOD: PACIFIC STAR RESTAURANT & OYSTER BAR An even mix of fried vs. broiled and a large palette of choices and combos. The perfect spot for seafood with a slightly Cajun lilt. 13507 Hwy. 183 N., 219-5373 \$\$

VIETNAMESE: PHO CONG LY This location has quickly become a staple for quick, cheap, and tasty meals. Where else can you slurp down a bowl of pho and listen to Abba? 8557 Research, 832-5595 \$

BURGER JOINT, DESSERTS, TAKEOUT: PLUCKERS WING FACTORY & GRILL Who ya gonna call when you're craving good wings in the wee hours? These folks are frying and flying until 2am on weekdays and 3am on weekends. 9070 Research Ste. 201C, 533-5330 \$

SEAFOOD, STEAKHOUSE: REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB With good food, drink, music, and thousands of yards of thick, red velvet drapery, Reed's is a terrific spot for romance. 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977 \$\$\$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: TEXADELPHIA Combining Philly cheesesteaks with sides of tortilla chips and salsa since 1985. They also serve chicken, burgers, and a handful of deli subs. 9828 Great Hills Trail, 338-1338 \$

NORTH CENTRAL

ITALIAN: ASTI TRATTORIA For various Italian regional cuisines and an extensive wine list of mostly Italian and Cal-Ital selections, try this Hyde Park corner spot. 408-C E. 43rd, 451-1218 \$\$\$

BURGER JOINT: DAN'S HAMBURGERS One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's Hamburger King, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. 5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: DOLCE VITA GELATO & ESPRESSO BAR Offers a delicious assortment of handmade Italian ice creams and fruit sorbets, along with a variety of coffee drinks, spir-its, and cordials. 4222 Duval St., 323-2686 \$

AMERICAN CAFE: HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL Gotta have those batter-dipped fries, we know. But this spot at the fork in the road does other things very well, too, like fish, chicken, and beef. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168 \$

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. 6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NEWORLEL This concept cafe stresses cus-tomer comfort - that starts with offering lunch under \$5. 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170 \$

PIZZA: THE PARLOR Fine pizza, flowing pitchers, and a punk feel come together amid the strains of a stellar jukebox. 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY Carrying on the tradition of slacker-era Austin, it is a great place to luxuriate over cof-fee and a muffin. 411 E. 43rd, 453-3399 \$

SEAFOOD: QUALITY SEAFOOD It's the place where all your favorite restaurants get their seafood, so you know it's the freshest. Great for lunch or an early dinner. 5621 Airport, 454-5827 \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THREADGILL'S OLD NO. 1 Fried-catfish dinners at Threadgill's have been a popular menu item as long as the restaurants have been open in Austin. 6416 N. Lamar, 451-5440 \$\$

SOUTH

BARBECUE: ARTZ RIB HOUSE A rib joint with a lush courtyard, music most nights, and some of the best barbecue in town. 2330 S. Lamar, 442-8283 \$\$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: CASA DE LUZ Follow the walkway through herbs and flowers to the invit-ing, airy dining room for food that is organic, in season, vegan, and all-natural. 1701 Toomey, 476-2535 \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: EL SOL Y LA LUNA Their menu of breakfast specialties is available all day. Try the Omelette del Sol or the Omelette de la Luna. 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: GALAXY CAFE French-press cof-fee and jazz on Saturday nights up the cool factor, while bargain prices and delicious food keep you coming back. 9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000 \$\$

FINE DINING: GREEN PASTURES The grand dame of Austin restaurants for more than 50 years. Sipping milk punch at Sunday brunch in this stately Southern mansion is one of Austin's finest traditions. 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: JOVITA'S Part community center, part restaurant, part music venue, and all fun. Honest Tex-Mex and ice-cold beer. 1619 S. First, 447-7825 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: KERBEY LANE CAFE Famously fabulous breakfast, lunch, and dinner, and a favorite of the late-night set. 2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: SWERVE COFFEE LOUNGE An über-hip coffeehouse on increas-ingly busy South Lamar, with a chic collection of mod mags and even more-mod decor. 2310 S. Lamar, 444-1000 \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ The fare is Southern standard home cook-ing: pot roast, chicken-fried steak, catfish, etc. And the vegetables are legendary: cheesy spinach casserole, San Antonio squash, garlic cheese grits, and on and on. 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304 \$\$

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S SOUTH A wide range of Tex-Mex with a contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 4141 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 326-9899 \$\$

JAPANESE: UCHI The sushi ranges from fresh scallops, tuna, and seafood to negitoro rolls, seaweed, and chicken salad, and all is highly rated. 801 S. Lamar, 916-4808 \$\$\$

FINE DINING: VESPAIO Buttery walls, warm wood, a comfy bar, and a dazzling display of antipasti near the front door are as impressive as the menu. 1610 S. Congress, 441-6100 \$\$\$

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THAI: MADAM MAM'S Fans and regulars are always borderline obsessed. The authentic Thai homestyle dishes served in this popular cam-pus-area spot are "Mam's" family recipes. 2514 Guadalupe, 472-8306 \$\$

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TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 409 W. 30th, 477-2935 \$\$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. 1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013 \$

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AMERICAN CAFE: HANG TOWN GRILL Jetson-era family restaurant with gourmet pizzas and mesquite burgers for mom and dad, combo meals for kids. Outdoor patio. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 347-1039 \$\$

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THAI: THAI SPICE CAFE Owned and operated by female chefs Vicki Vicha and Orasinnee Ratana-Apron, both locations have similar menus, offering fresh, fast, reliable versions of tradi-tional Thai dishes. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 330-0203 \$\$

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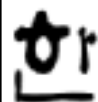
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WRONG PLACE, WRONG TIME

KIRBY WARNOCK'S 'BORDER BANDITS' RAIDS THE ALAMO
WITH THE UGLY TRUTH OF 1915 TEXAS BY MARC SAVLOV

It was a bad year to be Hispanic in Texas' Rio Grande Valley: In 1915, a series of escalating border-area skirmishes between the Texas Rangers and Mexican cattle and horse rustlers, revolutionaries, and innocents led to the deaths of an estimated 5,000 Latinos, many of whom were killed outright with zero provocation and even less justification, their bodies left to rot in the open as a warning to others.

Kirby Warnock's documentary "Border Bandits" examines this thoroughly whitewashed era in Texas history through the eyes and voice of his late grandfather Roland Warnock, who witnessed the murder of two unarmed Hispanic men, 68-year-old Jesus Bazan and Antonio Longoria, by a group of Texas Rangers on Sept. 30, 1915. The men were shot in the back and left where they fell. Warnock's grandfather later buried the men and recounted the grim tale to his grandson some 60 years later as part of Baylor University's oral history program.

"Anglo audiences are primarily just slack-jawed when

they see the film," Warnock says. "They say, 'I grew up in Texas and I never heard this.' Then, when I show it to Hispanic audiences, they're pretty upset about it. People will stand up in the audience and say, 'My uncle was killed by the Rangers' or 'My grandfather was killed by the Rangers,' or they'll just be so outraged they're practically shaking. They get really angry about [it, but] they're glad the story's finally being told."

"Border Bandits," which illuminates a particularly heinous period in Texas history, is hardly anti-Ranger ("I've had several police officers tell me they didn't find one thing objectionable about the film," notes Warnock), but is instead an invaluable record of a hysterical, racist, and ultimately bloodthirsty version of the American West few willingly recall, replete with itchy trigger fingers, political corruption, and wasted lives.

"I'm not a crusading liberal," Warnock emphasizes. "I like guns, drive a Suburban, and drink beer. I came to this story the same way that most white redneck Texans would.



At first I was kind of skeptical, too, but the more information I uncovered, the more I discovered my grandfather was telling the truth. When you're a kid, you believe what your grandparents say and you believe what you read in the history books. But there's nothing about this in the history books." — Marc Savlov

"Border Bandits" screens at the Alamo Drafthouse Village (2700 W. Anderson Ln., 476-1320) on Monday, Dec. 6, 7pm. A Q&A with Dr. Don Graham, Mike Cox, Rolando Hinojosa-Smith, and Warnock will follow. For more information, see www.drafthouse.com.

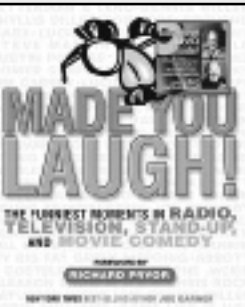
IN PRINT

MADE YOU LAUGH! THE FUNNIEST MOMENTS IN RADIO, TELEVISION, STAND-UP, AND MOVIE COMEDY
by Joe Garner
Andrews McMeel Publishing, 192 pp., \$29.95

Victim of mass-marketing strategies, the book's tawdry cover looks like that of something you might find in the bargain bin at your local drugstore. But this coffeetable collection of the greatest comic acts from stand-up, radio, TV, and the movies provides the reader with a captivating, and amusing, history of comedy as it adapts to the changing cultural landscape and mediums of the 20th century. Good commentary deepens our appreciation of its subject;

Made You Laugh makes funny moments even funnier and shows the reader that comics, good comics, do more than make audiences laugh: They deliver precise blows

to cultural juggernauts. From radio's golden age to the Borscht Belt to Chris Rock, *Made You Laugh* documents the personalities and social struggles behind the wit. Garner also knows that the timing and rhythm of a Richard Pryor or a Sam Kinison cannot be conveyed through a book, so he has included a 3-hour DVD hosted by Carl and Rob Reiner that, chapter by chapter, provides footage for many of the comic moments mentioned in the book. It's a great addition, sort of like a class field trip to the zoo. So, if you want to wrap a little thoughtfulness around your humor this holiday season, check out this multimedia barrel of laughs. — Jeff Tonn



ALL ABOUT THE OTHERS

THE AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY'S
BESIDES ALMODÓVAR

The difficulty most foreign films face in getting an American theatrical release means that those few films that do make it to American screens end up defining all we know of a nation's cinema. Spanish cinema has particularly been a victim of this effect, boasting some of the world's most creative and stylistically diverse filmmakers — from the great master Carlos Saura to the vigorous pop-meister Alex de la Iglesia — all of whom, in this country, have continually been forced to stand in the shadow of their more outrageously visible contemporary, Pedro Almodóvar. With the aim of giving his peers some more exposure — and, perhaps, as a kind of counter-programming to Almodóvar's much-hyped new offering *Bad Education* — the Austin Film Society will be presenting the pointedly titled *Besides Almodóvar: Other Spanish Directors* on Tuesdays from Dec. 7-21 at the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown.

The three films in this retrospective all seem selected to present a strong aesthetic contrast to the campy excesses of Spain's self-styled "bad boy," but none do so as starkly as *Solas*, the debut of director Benito Zambrano (screening Tuesday, Dec. 21, at 7pm). This understated, deliberately paced drama came out in 1999, the same year that Almodóvar's *All About My Mother* won an Academy Award for best foreign language film. And, like Almodóvar's breakout success, *Solas* centers on the dedication of a mother, in this case played by María Galiana. Staying in the ratty apartment of her embittered, alcoholic, and secretly pregnant daughter while her tyrannical husband convalesces in the hospital, Galiana's character offers only nurturing love in the face of her

family's helplessness and abuse, and ends up slowly transforming everything around her. Galiana takes a character given no speeches, very few lines, and no real opportunity to emote and builds it into a representation of motherhood that is both human-sized and iconic. Likewise, *Solas* starts with a storyline verging on Almodóvarian melodrama and, by never losing sight of the emotions of its characters and the gritty realities of their surroundings, culminates in a surprising dramatic twist that feels genuine and earned.

Before the ascent of Almodóvar, Spain's leading cinematic export of the post-Franco period was Carlos Saura. Saura began his career in the late 1950s and is most widely known for his "flamenco trilogy," made with choreographer Antonio Gades. His 1999 film, *Goya in Bordeaux* (screening Dec. 14, at 7pm), recalls Saura's dance-based works in its overtly theatrical sets and blocking; as the dying painter wanders through tormented memories of his life and work, walls melt into gauzy, transparent scrim, and shifting emotions are represented by dramatic lighting changes. Very few films are as successfully "painterly" as *Goya in Bordeaux*; Storaro and Saura even faithfully re-create, for the screen, many of Goya's most famous works, and their elderly Goya, the veteran actor Francisco Rabal, looks so craggy and ravaged he might have staggered out of one of the master's bleak self-portraits. *Goya in Bordeaux* is a passionate, messy, almost sloppy film — containing moments of intense power (the film's unforgettable opening shot is worth the price of admission) alongside a few moments that fail uncomfortably — but it remains dizzyingly ambitious throughout.

Even more ambitious than *Goya in Bordeaux* is *Lovers of the Arctic Circle* (screening Dec. 7, 7pm). Basque director Julio Medem is one of the most adventurous filmmakers working today, ably mixing poppy accessibility with formal complexity. Medem's intoxicating *Lovers of the Arctic Circle* bends a swooningly romantic love story around a daunting formal conceit. The film's narrative mimics a palindrome; circling around its two lovers, Otto and Ana, it ends the same way it begins, cramming every scene in between with rhymes, coincidences, echoes, and alternate realities. The resulting art-drunk teenage love fantasia anticipates the formal trickery of films like *Memento* and *Irreversible* and deserves the kind



Goya in
Bordeaux

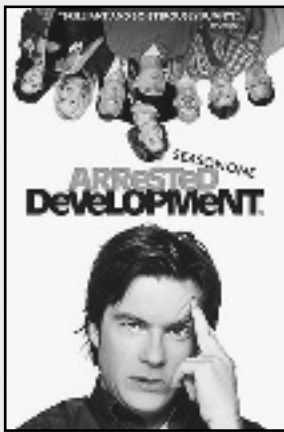
of adoring audience that has made cult heroes out of American directors like Richard E. Kelly and Paul Thomas Anderson. Instead, like his contemporaries, Medem has struggled to find his broader audience in the American marketplace, which seems only able to support enough attention for one Spanish filmmaker at a time. — Will Robinson Sheff

Tuesdays, 7pm, Dec. 7-21, Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; admission is free for AFS members, \$4 for all others. Tickets may be purchased online at www.austinfilm.org or at the venue an hour prior to screening.

ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT: SEASON ONE

Fox Home Entertainment, \$39.99

Banking on the power of the exploding DVD market and an unexpected Emmy win its first time out, the entire first season of this critically acclaimed comedy series appears on this three-disc DVD set, ready for uninterrupted viewing. Because the series was often pre-empted or moved around the Fox schedule, it's amazing the series gathered a fan base at all. Fortunately, the die-hards kept with the sublime series about a spoiled, affluent family in deep financial trouble. Compared to its con-



temporaries in network television's mediocre sitcom landscape, the writing is bright, refreshing, and edgy. The brilliant cast, led by Jason Bateman, captures each clueless, narcissistic

member of the affluent Bluth clan with deadpan, sidesplitting seriousness. It's not a stretch to say *Arrested Development* is one of the finest ensemble casts in a network comedy since *Seinfeld*. Extras include an extended pilot, audio commentaries on three episodes, and executive producer (and show narrator) Ron Howard's insider view of the series. Snippets from a TV Land awards show (with series creator Mitchell Hurwitz humbly accepting the Future Classic Award) and a Museum of Television & Radio panel discussion about the series reveal how rare a treasure *Arrested Development* really is.

— Belinda Acosta

FANNY & ALEXANDER

Criterion, \$59.95

Fanny & Alexander is Ingmar Bergman's final big-screen work; it's also the director's most autobiographical, his most richly imagined, and, at times, his most uncharacteristically exuberant. An ensemble piece incorporating almost every actor Bergman had worked with over the course of his career, *Fanny & Alexander* leads the viewer slowly along through one single decisive year in the life of the fictional Ekdahl family. Bergman's theatrical cut of the film ran 188 minutes, but he preceded it by an even more sprawling 312-minute television version; the latter has never before been commercially available in America, and the Criterion Collection has just released both editions as part of a definitive five-disc DVD box set. This director-approved package also incorporates two documentaries, including one that Bergman created simultaneously with the film (offering a rare glimpse of a smiling, friendly director gently orchestrating some of its most graceful shots), along with hours of interview and commentary, costume sketches, theatrical trailers, and assorted vintage effluvia. The real treat here is that five-hour original version, though, which rewards those patient enough to spend time among its lavish interiors and lingering close-ups with even more fully realized characters, even more of Sven Nykvist's Academy Award-winning cinematography, even more time spent in the crimson-draped warmth of Christmas Eve at the Ekdahl household, and — left like little Christmas presents for devoted cinephiles — a small handful of some of the director's most surprisingly indelible scenes.

— Will Robinson Sheff



25-minute DVD will be a hit with all dachshund lovers on your gift list or, really, any fan of uniquely fun and silly interactions between pet owners and their charges. Seven dachshunds at a time are let loose from the handmade starting gate and are urged by their coach/owners (who use toys, noisemakers, fried chicken, or whatever works) to run quickly in a straight line toward the finish. Many dogs just run in circles or toward the bystanders, but there is something distinctly entertaining about seeing these crop-legged runners all racing for the glory. The film interviews several of the participants: One woman hits it on the head when she describes dachshunds as the least Olympic-seeming of all dogs, an observation that goes a long way toward explaining the curious charm of these competitive runners. With music by Austin musician Danny Levin, the film also highlights the wiener dog costume contest and Buda residents recounting the history of the small-town event that now brings in contenders from around the country. The race is a fundraiser for the local Lions Club, and a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the DVD will benefit the club's charity work. Copies of "Lord of the Wiens" — which screened at SXSW 04 — and the poster may be ordered online at www.lordofthewiens.com; T-shirts and other race paraphernalia may be purchased at www.budalionsclub.com.



— Marjorie Baumgarten

THE GOLDEN GIRLS: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON

Buena Vista Home Entertainment, \$49.99

It has become pop culture fact that *The Golden Girls* was the *Sex and the City* of the Eighties. But the comparison falters after viewing the first season of the Emmy Award-winning series, now available on a three-disc DVD set. *The Golden Girls* enjoyed a loyal audience when it began its seven-year run in 1985. Estelle Getty as Sophia, the disarmingly blunt grande dame of four retired women sharing a Miami house, is enormously amusing, as are



Bea Arthur (Dorothy), Rue McClanahan (Blanche), and Betty White (Rose). Blanche's sex life, Rose's loopiness, and Dorothy's inability to find a man are the reliable subjects of the show's signature zingers. In retrospect, it's clear that were it not for series creator Susan Harris' (*Soap*, *Empty Nest*) Dorothy Parker-esque wit, the series would have died. It's the one-liners, retorts, and asides that survive. The episodes themselves are largely unmemorable. Speaking of unmemorable, a commentary by Joan and Melissa Rivers on the series' wardrobe is the only extra. Not hearing from the cast is unfortunate. What do they make of the *Sex and the City* comparison? And just what does Sophia carry in that giant purse of hers? Perhaps that's what's in store for the season two DVD.

— Belinda Acosta



ELF: INFINIFILM EDITION

New Line Home Entertainment, \$29.95

Will Ferrell and his syrupy-sweet supporting cast deliver the holiday cheer on time (and beautifully packaged) for the gift-buying season. Following his career-defining turn in *Old School*, Ferrell and such classic comedic cohorts as Bob Newhart, Ed Asner, and James Caan fulfill their aspiration of supplying Christmas cheer for all the family to enjoy. Ferrell's deadpan delivery and doofus demeanor are at the forefront here, and you'll certainly be laughing aloud at/with his misplaced-elf hijinks and holiday humor when not fighting off the inevitable tears at the film's somewhat cheesy climax. *Elf* also brings the goods by way of bonus features, which will certainly add life to this two-disc stocking stuffer well past Christmas morn. Documentary-style extras like "Kids on Christmas" and "Deck the Halls" are as enjoyable and touching as the film itself, as the Christmas-obsessed get their time to shine. *Elf* also boasts new DVD feature Infinifilm, which allows the viewer to access bonus material relating to the scene currently playing. I'm not sure how much you need to know about the making of *Elf*, but all your curiosities will certainly be satisfied with this extras-packed family entertainment that'll keep all the clan out of one another's hair — for a couple of hours, at least.

— Mark Fagan



THE FOG OF WAR

Columbia Tristar Home Video, \$26.95

"Rule number one: Empathize with your enemy." Thus begins Robert McNamara's first of 11 lessons in Errol Morris' extraordinary documentary about the former defense secretary's pivotal role in World War II, Vietnam, and the Cold War. Morris humanizes the Rumsfeld-esque McNamara, cutting between interviews with the rueful, liver-spotted 85-year-old of the film and archival footage of the slick, silver-tongued politico of the Cold War. *The Fog of War* loops around important historical moments — World War II, the Cuban missile crisis, the Kennedy assassination — but ultimately focuses on Vietnam, a war that Morris claims McNamara has been too harshly blamed for. This is Morris' major intervention: While the historical consensus has tended to portray LBJ as vacillating and McNamara as hawkish on Vietnam, Morris uncovers archival footage that clearly demonstrates the opposite was true. Still, Morris' film is never dissertationish; McNamara comes off like a typical Morris subject: bizarre, yet somehow redeemable. Occasionally, Morris interjects his comments on McNamara's "lessons" to interrogate the old man. Pressed to explain his government's support for an escalation in bombing while admitting that no one in the Johnson Administration truly understood the Vietnamese, McNamara says that in the fog of war, "we see what we want to believe." It's an apt lesson that McNamara could well impart to his political progeny.

— Russell Cobb



THAT '70s SHOW: SEASON ONE

Fox Home Entertainment, \$49.99

While the current season of *That '70s Show* is laden with serious subjects like Kelso's (Ashton Kutcher) child born out of wedlock, Eric (Topher Grace) leaving Donna (Laura Prepon) at the altar, and Hyde (Danny Masterson) meeting his real father, the DVD of the first season reminds us of the show's simpler origins when all that was needed for a good time was a doobie, a reliable console TV, free beer, or sex — not necessarily in that order. Season one doesn't aim too high, it doesn't aim too low, and, like watching Julia Child while smoking the magic weed, it's reliably, even comfortably funny. The four-disc DVD set includes a *That '70s Show* trivia game, as well as an extended version of the show's theme song, "That '70s Song." A featurette has the cast opining about how the show captures a kinder, gentler time — apparently oblivious to *Happy Days*, a sitcom about teenagers set in Milwaukee, capturing the kinder, gentler time of the 1950s. And what sitcom will capture the kinder, gentler days of the present? Until that show appears, *That '70s Show* offers an unchallenging, smoke-free amusement. Munchies are optional.

— Belinda Acosta



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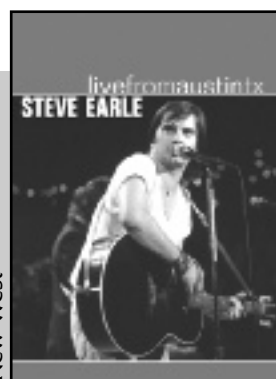
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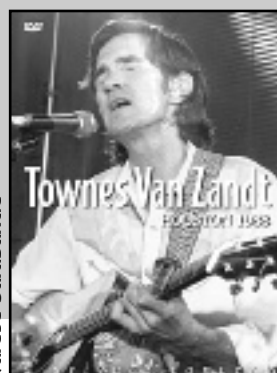
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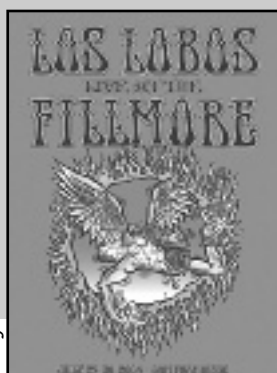
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COURT AND SPARK

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

When opposites attract, the result can be hot but doomed. Yet, from an unusual union between an indie-rooted movie network and another cable network specializing in sensational courtroom dramas comes a sustained, multifaceted discussion on one of the most pressing issues of our time: free speech. The opposites in this case are the Sundance Channel and Court TV, and their unusual love child is *The First Amendment Project*, which airs on both networks starting Dec. 7.

Four half-hour films by directors who offer divergent, distinctive, and, thankfully, more complex views than the current diet of *he said a bad word, she showed her breast* fare found on most TV news make the series enlightening and necessary viewing. There is a downside to the series: Only four films are in the lineup. But with showings on two such divergent networks, perhaps viewer response will encourage the creation of more work on this very important subject. Here's the lineup:

"Fox vs. Franken" (D: Chris Hegedus and Nick Doob): The story of the Fox network's attempt to stop publication of **Al Franken's** satirical book *Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them: A Fair and Balanced Look at the Right*. Besides Franken's droll account (along with lawyers, his publisher, and others) comes a dis-

cussion of just what the First Amendment is and what makes it a uniquely American concept. Aired Dec. 7 at 8pm on the Sundance Channel, 9pm on Court TV.

"Poetic License" (D: Mario Van Peebles): In 2002, poet and political activist **Amiri Baraka** was New Jersey's third poet laureate. When his poem written in response to 9/11 caused an uproar, Baraka's title was withdrawn, and in a disturbingly far-reaching measure, the position of New Jersey poet laureate was eliminated. As Baraka reads his poem, journalists, scholars, and other artists remark on the role of artists to comment on the world around them and how free expression takes on new challenges when state funding is involved. Aired Dec. 7 at 8:30pm on Sundance, 9:30pm on Court TV.

"Some Assembly Required" (D: John Walter): This summer's Republican National Convention is the site of Walter's film, which homes in on the need for high-level security in the post-9/11 era while recognizing the First Amendment right for protesters to assemble peaceably. Aired Dec. 14 at 8pm on Sundance, 9pm on Court TV.

"No Joking" (D: Bob Balaban): Using the career of the late comedian **Lenny Bruce** as a springboard, **Eric Bogosian** and **Richard**



Mario Van Peebles' "Poetic License," with poet and political activist Amiri Baraka

Dreyfuss pursue a satirical discussion on free speech. Aired Dec. 14 at 8:30pm on Sundance, 9:30pm on Court TV.

What Else Is On?

The Librarian: Quest for the Spear, the new made-for-TV film on TNT, should be better. Much better. With the likes of **Kyle MacLachlan** (*Sex and the City*), **Olympia**

Dukakis (*Steel Magnolias*), **Jane Curtin** (*3rd Rock From the Sun*), and **Bob Newhart** (*Elf*) in the mix, you'd expect a lot more. Actually, the actors mentioned above deliver splendidly in this fantasy-action-adventure (and potential series, from the open-ended conclusion) that derives its premise from a mix of *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Spider-Man*, and, to a lesser extent, *Buffy the Vampire Slayer's* resident librarian with a bad-boy past, Rupert Giles (**Anthony Stewart Head**). Unfortunately, *The Librarian's* weak link is its star, **Noah Wyle** (*ER*). Wyle plays Flynn Carsen, a perpetual graduate student turned weak-kneed reluctant hero when he is catapulted into a world of intrigue after being selected custodian of the world's greatest secret library. The Ark of the Covenant, Pandora's Box, and Excalibur are a few of the library's treasures. Another is a holy relic called the Spear of Destiny, which grants its bearer unfathomable power. Naturally, it is stolen by an evil cult known as the Serpent Brotherhood before Flynn's first day of work, thrusting him into his first assignment with the help of his humorless and comely bodyguard, Nicole (**Sonya Walger**). So many winning elements. One weak lead.

The Librarian: Quest for the Spear premieres Sunday, Nov. 5, at 9pm on TNT. Check local listings for additional airdates.

Not reviewed at press time: *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*, a biopic of the charismatic actor based on the biography by Roger Lewis. **Geoffrey Rush** stars in the title. *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers* premieres Dec. 5 on HBO. Check local listings.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

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STUFF THIS

Also known as the Stack Attack. With "Texas Platters" otherwise occupied by the annual year-end avalanche of "gift ideas," "TCB" offers 15 recent local releases to divert your holiday green from Time Warner, Sony, and Universal. Let's see what sticks and what stinks.



THE ADDICTIONS (Electric Factory)

The band formerly known as **Quatropaw** hangs a sharp left into **Ratt/Runaways** territory. Four dudes in black audition for *The Decline of Western Civilization Part 2*; **Beth Richard** becomes the fifth **Donna**. Trashy and fun.

TOMMY ALVERSON, *Heroes and Friends* (Smith)

Good-natured honky-tonker knows what he likes: border-town girls, rodeo queens, passing the time of day at the local watering hole. Like a **John Kelso** column scored by **Ray Benson**.

THE CHAPTERS, *Bleeding All Over This Town* (Has Anyone Ever Told You?)

Thickets of spidery guitar and deadpan vox send a "Killing Moon"-like beacon to Williamsburg refugees and wannabes. "The Mouse of Marcos" gives good **Love & Rockets**, too. Next assembly: the Parish, Dec. 9.

CRAWLING WITH KINGS

Red Eyed Fly regulars revisit early **Wilco** for dispatches from the down-and-out. Chiming melodies and stormy rockers offer solace, but bleaker than a lost unemployment check.

ARMADILLOS & ANGELS

It's an Austin holiday tradition up there with the Zilker trail of lights and the Longhorns getting shut out of the BCS. Originally an idea by **Lucinda Williams**, the Armadillo

Dec. 11: **Sara Hickman** (12:30pm); **Eliza Gilkyson** (3:30); **Django Walker** (8)
Dec. 12: **Ruthie Foster** (12:30pm); **Toni Price** (3:30); **Greezy Wheels** (8)
Dec. 13: **The Eggmen**
Dec. 14: **Ray Wylie Hubbard**
Dec. 15: **Austin Lounge Lizards**



D:FUSE, *Begin* (System)

Globe-trotting local DJ's original compositions favor hypnotic beats pulsing under spacious pyramids of sound. Languid after-hours ambience and bewitching female vox cancel out New Age moments like lengthy wind-chime breaks.



ANDREW DUPLANTIS, *Only Funny the First Time* (GFY) Tia Carrera/Jon Dee Graham

bassist does lonesome, often acoustic, psychedelic drone. Distinct countryish cast, with depth and hooks to boot. Campfire songs for peyote tea.

FULL SERVICE, *3 Will Ride Forth* (Mashup)

Sublime they're not, but the trio's bouncy fusion of reggae, metal, and hip-hop has the strength of its knit-cap convictions (and conventions). Now that **311** is covering the **Cure**, somebody's got to.

THE INNOCENT, *Our Grievances* (Vainglorious)

Love songs for the doomed from local quartet fond of mining the cavernous depths of early **New Order**. Chilly but inviting; disco bass keeps things from getting too morose. CD release Sunday at Beerland.

THE JOLLY GAROGRERS, *Lost at C Flat Sharp* (Explicit Parrots)

Media-friendly scalawags, who invade Mother Egan's Dec. 12, strike again. "Let's Fight Tonight" and "Road to Riches" perfect for anyone who finds the **Darkness** too subtle. **Monster Magnet** takes to the high seas.

CAMERO JONES, *Love Songs for the Shotgun* (Locomotive)

One-man four-track opus through **Creedence Clearwater** country, stocked with itinerant yarns of jealousy and longing. Zesty guitar tone swampy enough to support an entire ecosystem.

LA LA LAND, *Ready? Ready!* (Coup d'Etat)

Fuzzy pop with a mordant sense of humor and reluctant conscience. Orchestral bits and moody acoustic fare offset by atmospheric keys; cover of **Trio**'s "Da Da Da" adds a dash of throwaway fun.



THE PLATFORMS, *Kicked Off* (Ankle Injury)

Equally glam and garage, fashion-obsessed foursome does the "Walk of Shame" with mussed hair and ripped fishnets. **Laurie Libido**'s sneering vox turns come-ons into commands. Part of Trophy's Mod/Glam Freakout Saturday.

SAN SABA COUNTY, *San Saba County*

The urban cowboy circa 2004: exhausted, restless, romantic, wasted. Easygoing acoustic record with surprising bite; good twin bill with **Milton Mapes** or **Li'l Cap'n Travis**.

THE STEPBROTHERS, *Baby It's Over* (Licorice Tree)

May expend more ounces of sweat per gig than any band in town. Effortlessly gives classic Southern soul new life with punk energy and rockers' smirks. Helluva party album.



THE WEARY BOYS, *Holy Ghost Power*

Scruffy bluegrass quintet holds a revival meeting behind the Continental Club (and CD release inside Dec. 10). You gotta sin to get saved, so praise the Lord and pass the ammunition.



GLORIUM, HALLELUJAH

Glorium throat **Paul Vodas**' song-shouts riled an Emo's packed with hardcore fans that knew every lyric the Nineties local avant-rockers ever penned. Despite throw-down sets from **AM Syndicate** and Denton's **Paperchase**, **Glorium** proved that the older a band gets, the wiser they become. **Ernest Salaz**'s guitar led the geographically challenged quintet through the hits – "The Final DJs," "The Deserter" – and cuts off new release *Fantasmas*, while Vodas tossed his limbs in a dance to the gods. Hopefully, they will answer with future shows.

★ Shortly after commanding a sold-out La Zona Rosa crowd to "Walk Idiot Walk," **Hives** frontman **Howlin' Pelle Almqvist** and his nattily dressed bandmates stopped by Beerland. Almqvist joined reunited NYC punk/R&B legends the **Raunch Hands** – featuring Stepbrothers guitarist **Mike Mariconda** – onstage, while his mates stood around modeling their white satin jackets. There's a **Doobie Brothers** joke here somewhere.

★ 'Tis the season: Elysium hosts its third Island of Misfits Toy Drive Friday, with live music, DJs, oil wrestling (sweet!), and a silent auction. Admission is one new, unwrapped toy (suggested \$20 value) or a minimum \$5 cash donation. Sunday, Lovejoy's holds its own toy drive for the Austin Police Department's Blue Santa program from 2pm on. The **Passed Out Fliers** perform.

★ Several bands who paid their dues in Sixth Street's blues trenches, including the **Zach Parrish Band**, **Zak Perry Band**, **Appa's Blues Power**, **Gilson Viator**, **Joe Richardson Express**, and **Eric Tessmer Band** gather at the Ritz Upstairs, 4pm Sunday, for a memorial concert for former Joe's Generic Bar owner **Joe Bates**, whose October murder remains unsolved. Admission is \$5; proceeds benefit the SIMS Foundation.

★ Local punk vixens the **Winks** recorded their debut full-length last weekend at the Bubble. Super Secret Records plans to release the album in February, with Italy's Rockin' Bones Records putting out a vinyl version. Catch a preview Saturday at Sound on Sound with **Manikin** (themselves launching a 7-inch) and the **Video Screams**.

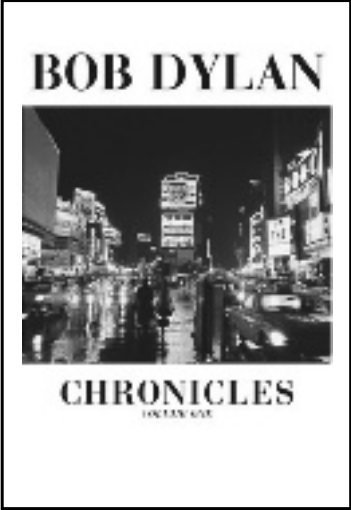
★ **Ian McLagan & the Bump Band** resume their Lucky Lounge residency 6pm tonight (Thursday) after a brief tour of the East and Midwest. McLagan "had 'em dancing in the aisles," says the *Cleveland Free Scene*.

★ Keep an eye peeled for VH1's **Velvet Revolver** (*Inside)Out*, which premiered Wednesday. Among those shown auditioning for the vocalist job eventually filled by **Scott Weiland** are **Sebastian Bach** and Austin's **Shandon Sahn**, who sang his dad's "She's About a Mover," of course.

Christmas Bazaar starts its 29th year next Saturday at the Austin Music Hall. More than 100 local artists and artisans will be on hand to hawk their wares, with live music every weeknight at 8pm. (Other times shown.) Admission is \$3 before 7pm weekdays, \$5 after 7pm and weekends.

Dec. 16: **Terri Hendrix**
Dec. 17: **Jimmy LaFave**
Dec. 18: **The Resentments** (12:30pm); **South Austin Jug Band** (3:30); **Van Wilks** (8)
Dec. 19: **The Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers** (12:30pm); **Marcia Ball & Sarah Elizabeth Campbell** (3:30); **W.C. Clark** (8)

Dec. 20: **Ray Benson**
Dec. 21: **Albert & Gage**
Dec. 22: **The Greencards**
Dec. 23: **Django's Mustache** (3pm); **Ponty Bone & the Squeezetones** (8)
Dec. 24: **Shelley King Band** (3:30pm); **Texana Dames** (8)



CHRONICLES: VOLUME ONE

by Bob Dylan
Simon & Schuster, 293 pp., \$24

STUDIO A: THE BOB DYLAN READER

edited by Benjamin Hedin
Norton, 336 pp., \$24.95

You'll find Sam Shepard's 1987 one-act "A Short Life of Trouble" near the middle of *Studio A: The Bob Dylan Reader*, which, of the 30 or so such collections published over the past three decades, is the most varied and valuable. It's also the most potent, so much so that one almost overlooks the play amid the other 45 reprinted or previously unpublished contributions from the likes of Greil Marcus, Hendrik Hertzberg, Camille Paglia, Johnny Cash (the winking amicus brief to *Broadside*), Lester Bangs, Clive James, Joyce Carol Oates, Jonathan Lethem, Anne Waldman (the startling 1976 poem "Shaman Hisses You Slide Back Into the Night"), Barry Hannah, and Dylan himself.

But don't overlook Shepard's two-guys-talking-at-a-table, a blurred scene on Dylan's Malibu patio. The playwright is there as interviewer for *Esquire*. Dylan is relatively unguarded. Dylan is funny. Dylan strums a guitar. Cars crash on what's likely Highway 1, but he doesn't notice. They talk about James Dean, polka, Duluth, angels, dreams, Woody Guthrie, testicular cancer, Hank Williams, women, Bob Marley, the motorcycle accident. Mysteriously, when Shepard replays the interview tape during a break, nothing but Jimmy Yancey piano music comes out.

I hadn't read "A Short Life of Trouble," and by the time I had, it was about an hour after having finished Dylan's *Chronicles*, a book that in recent months has been discussed to an extent approaching Philip Roth's or Tatum O'Neal's, depending on the discussion. Excluding the motorcycle accident – which, and I think I speak for all of us here, warrants more than a sentence (or, damn you, Dylan, maybe not?) – Shepard's one-act reminds me a whole lot of reading Dylan's autobiography. At times, in fact, I thought I was.

In *Chronicles* – as much an epic historical prose poem as it is a mind-blowing, elliptical, picaresque memoir – Dylan is relatively unguarded. Dylan is funny. Dylan is street. Dylan is substantive. With an eye occasionally cataractous but most often clear, he describes friends and enemies, encounters and environments, insecurities and epiphanies. Len Chandler. Greenwich Village. Camilla Adams' party for a dying Cisco Houston. Jon Pankake. Harry Belafonte. Meeting the Duke on the set of *In Harm's Way*. Small-town Minnesota reflections. The bizarre midlife crisis that was recording *Oh Mercy* in New Orleans. Relearning the guitar based on an early Lonnie Johnson lesson. And his first love, Suze Rotolo, taking him to see a production of Brecht and Weill songs she was working on. Along with Guthrie and Robert Johnson, "Pirate Jenny" would make for nothing less than the origin of his own creation – the spark for his big bang – and he explains how.

So, as one might expect from a memoir, Dylan reveals more than a few things we would never find out elsewhere, which is notable mainly because he's Dylan, and has nurtured his own mystique – his privacy, really – like a bonsai. Beyond that, your own appreciation for his art will in turn affect how much you might appreciate his backstory. Still, like his best work, it possesses an undeniable universal pull. The guy, you might've heard, can tell a story, and he can tie it to, like, big things.



NATHAN JENSEN

Dylan gets to NYC in 1961. He crashes on couches. This you found out. He remembers waking up after scavenged gigs, warm on the couch of Ray Gooch and Chloe Kiel during a blizzard – for weeks. This you maybe found out. This you did not find out: Kiel was a Southern belle with black nail polish who believed "Dracula ruled the world" and was "the son of Gutenberg." Gooch had guns, opium, and "blood in his eyes, the face of a man who could do no wrong." They had books. "The books were something. They were really something."

Dylan addresses Thaddeus Stevens' and Teddy Roosevelt's affect on his work. Dylan connects Prussian military mind Clausewitz and once wanting to attend West Point to wrestler Gorgeous George's *maybe* mouthing "You're making it come alive" when the singer was a teenager playing for free in the lobby of the National Guard Armory in Duluth. Back to Clausewitz and, finally, to the claim that "politics has taken the place of morality." Dylan writes things like "Dostoyevsky was accused of writing socialist propaganda. He was eventually pardoned and wrote stories to ward off his creditors. Just like in the early Seventies I wrote albums to ward off mine." Dylan notes at one point that "Balzac is hilarious."

None of this you found out. If you somehow did – if you were even on the right track as to what might possibly make him tick – it was only from the songs.

The songs are the Jimmy Yancey piano lines. They're all that matters. They're the tell-all, the big story. They're all that's coming out. *Chronicles* – along with the works of Shepard and 44 others in *Studio A* – is just good conversation, a bit of context. There are gaps, big ones (1964-66, anyone?), and typical fits of strategic reticence (*relatively unguarded*). So, then why did Dylan write it, and why has he promised more amid 150 tour dates a year? And, more to the point, why should we care?

Because, in my mind at least, after the interviewer in "A Short Life of Trouble" left for the evening, after the host pretended not to notice the car crashes, he could put down his guitar, go out his side door, walk down the road a ways, and examine the wreckage. He saw escapes, but he also saw a lot of pain. He saw a chase and a flip, a fireball going over a cliff. Maybe a motorcycle without a rider, or a rider without a motorcycle. A limo driver arguing over insurance with a cop. Shapes in the smoke that he was able to identify as he got closer – he rescued some and abandoned others.

And then he went back home and thought about it for a while. Laughed, cried, looked out the window, just like anyone else. Maybe he thought of "My Life in a Stolen Moment," the mythmaking prose-poem printed in the program of his April 12, 1963, Town Hall concert, which opens *Studio A*. "Somewheres back I took the time to start playin' the guitar," it reads. "Somewheres back I took time to start singin'. Somewheres back I took the time to start writin'. But I never did take the time to find out why."

– Shawn Badgley

SCAR TISSUE

by Anthony Kiedis, with Larry Sloman
Hyperion, 465 pp., \$24.95

Four hundred sixty-five pages in which the words "cocaine," "heroin," and "syringe" are shot through more than most prepositions. Chapter after lurid chapter of sex with Lone Sky (a picture even), possibly Sinéad O'Connor, and prerequisite punk rock sodomy in a stairwell. Broken backs, eye sockets, and skulls. Borneo leaches. Even "rock out": militant production by Gang of Four's Andy Gill on debut *Red Hot Chili Peppers* (1984), George Clinton landing for LP No. 3 (*Freaky Styley*), and who could forget Dave Navarro, giant schlong? The Dalai Lama recruiting Kiedis' band for a benefit, Godfather style ("If Adam Yauch

ever calls you to play another festival for us, please make yourself available"). All that, and it's three words on the inside dust cover resonating the longest and loudest: "against all odds." As in, "Over 20 years later, the Red Hot Chili Peppers – *against all odds* – have

become one of the most successful bands in the world." (Emphasis mine.) No shit. Who in their whacked-out minds would've believed that three miscreants from Fairfax High in L.A., Kiedis, one Michael Balzary (Flea), and future heroin casualty Hillel Slovak, could translate their freaky funk rock into global domination. Not this Lithuanian descendant from Grand Rapids, Mich., who was a club kid seeing Neil Young and the Eagles in the first grade with his dealer dad, Blackie. Not the child actor in Sylvester Stallone's "F.I.S.T." who snorted his first line of heroin in the eighth grade. Certainly not the injured motorcyclist who winds up in emergency surgery. "I turned to the nurse and said, 'Unfortunately, over a lifetime of misbehavior, I've attained a rather enormous resistance to the opiate family of drugs. You're probably going to have to go ahead and double that dose right away. ...'" Morphine times seven doses, it ends up. As Kiedis' introduction reveals, his immediate (opiate) family also bequeathed him hep C.

– Raoul Hernandez



BILL GRAHAM PRESENTS: MY LIFE INSIDE ROCK AND OUT
by Bill Graham and Robert Greenfield
Da Capo Press, 568 pp., \$18.95 (paper)

If Bill Graham hadn't actually existed, Hollywood would've had to invent him. The man most responsible for turning concert promotion into a multimillion-dollar industry, he towered over his profession — which he stumbled into by accident after staging a benefit for a friend who got arrested — like the Marvel Comics character Galactus. A concentration camp survivor before he was out of short pants, Graham was brash, outspoken, and focused like a hawk on the bottom line. "Which was a cross he had to bear for many years," says late Merry Pranksters founder Ken Kesey, referring to Graham's insistence on no comps at the Pranksters' early Acid Tests. "Until finally he crawled up on it and decided to rule from there." Originally published in 1992 after Graham's October 1991 death in a helicopter crash, *Bill Graham Presents* is a fascinating, if sometimes daunting, oral history. Graham's frank, often indignant voice dominates the narrative, as a chorus of friends, relatives, associates, employees, and superstars like Eric Clapton, Pete Townshend, Keith Richards, and Carlos Santana lend their impressions. No detail — his trips to New York's Palladium as a college student, where he acquired his lifelong love of Latin music; mediating between the Police and U2 over who would headline 1986's Conspiracy of Hope tour — is too minute for Graham to include. Gather enough of them (545 pages, to be exact), and you've got his epic life. He wasn't just an observer at the milestones of rock history — Monterey Pop, Altamont, the Last Waltz, the Stones' 1981 tour — or even just the guy who signed the checks. He was the major reason they happened at all. *Bill Graham Presents* would indeed make a great movie, but it would need a director with as much chutzpah, ego, and sheer balls as Graham himself. Maybe Oliver Stone is available.

— Christopher Gray

FELL IN LOVE WITH A BAND: THE STORY OF THE WHITE STRIPES

by Chris Handyside
St. Martin's Griffin, 226 pp., \$12.95 (paper)

Remember Dan Rather's weird, funny metaphors on election night? Imagine trying to read an entire book composed of such witticisms, but not nearly as quaint as "hotter than a Times Square Rolex" or "walking through a furnace in a gasoline suit." Instead, Detroit music writer Chris Handyside devotes his 200-plus pages on the White Stripes to weirdicisms like "Jack and Meg have designed their [metaphorical] room to include all sorts of false-bottomed drawers, trick bookcases, and secret cubbies." True, Handyside has an encyclo-



pedic knowledge of Detroit rock history, trotting out every member of that history to populate his pages with random, marginally germane quotes, but his prose smacks of a college writer majoring in fawning hyperbole. The result is a dry treatment of a mildly engaging story, although the writer and publishers would like the public to believe that the White Stripes are the *first band* ever to catch on in a hurry. The biographical formula is solidly in place here, from the birth of Jack Gillis and his marriage to Megan White, to their construction of the fanciful tale of two red-and-white-clad siblings discovering instruments in their attic and creating an infectious amalgam of Delta blues, Tin Pan Alley, and punk rock. Despite his zeal for the actors in the story, Handyside fails to capture the exhilaration one feels when the lights go down onstage and Meg's tom-and-snare beat echoes into the auditorium. Absent is the thrilling mixture of fear and elation when all the house lights go out and Jack screams "Jolene" into the darkness. The White Stripes deserve better, and their fans deserve something better to drop \$13 on between albums.

— Melanie Haupt

ELLIOTT SMITH AND THE BIG NOTHING

by Benjamin Nugent
Da Capo Press, 218 pp., \$23.95

"This is the story of an artist who just wanted to do what he did and stay alive, and there's nothing simple about that," begins music writer Benjamin Nugent in his ode to fallen songwriter Elliott Smith. But this is not an adoring epitaph. Neither is *Big Nothing* the full story. The majority of the book comprises interviews with friend Marc Swanson, sculptor E.V. Day, and publicist Dorien Garry, among a handful of others, while Heatmiser cohort Neil Gust, ex-girlfriend Joanna

Bolme, and Quasi members Janet Weiss and Sam Coomes are notably absent. Otherwise, Nugent allows Smith's friends to tell his story, adding minimal commentary. It's the tale of a misunderstood funnyman who didn't begin the much-publicized decline into chemical dependency until late in his short life. From his uneasy Texas adolescence to his Portland, Ore., homecoming and on to New York and L.A., Nugent pulls Smith's story through his recorded output, culminating in his last few years of addiction, confusion, and redemption. David McConnell, owner of Basement on a Hill (aka Satellite Park studio in Malibu), witnessed a musician only concerned with making music but almost unable to do so. Smith had been broken by a combination of the music industry, self-deprecation, and a need to placate everyone, including his rabid fans. Those surrounding Smith late in his life say he had turned away from crack and heroin and toward the future. That man and the 34-year-old on the floor of an L.A. apartment with two fatal stab wounds to the chest couldn't possibly be the same. Nugent makes no attempt at solving Smith's mysterious death, but *Big Nothing* does open a window of insight into our reluctant hero.

— Darcie Stevens



CONTINUED ON P. 74

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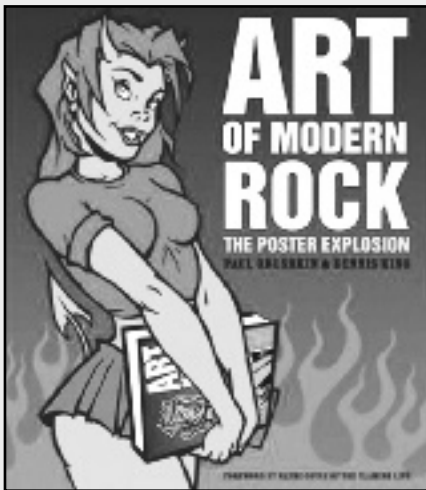
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ART OF MODERN ROCK: THE POSTER EXPLOSION

by Paul Grushkin and Dennis King
Chronicle Books, 492 pp., \$60

Line one, chapter one: “Fueled by a curious mix of psychedelic and punk rock, the roots of the silkscreen movement were laid down in Austin, Texas, in the Eighties.” Ground zero was River City studio space shared by local old-, medium-, and new-guard poster artists Micael Priest, Danny Garrett, Guy Juke, and Postererectous Man of the Modern Era, Frank Kozik. “I Am the King of Sleep,” Kozik’s first silkscreen – electric chair Tex Avery – when crossbred with an L.A. art gallery, “quietly marked the beginning of a revolution that would expand outward from Austin like shock waves from a seismic event.” Seismic being the operative word for *Art of Modern Rock: The Poster Explosion*, the long-awaited follow-up to Paul Gruskin’s momentous coffeetable crusher, 1987’s *The Art of Rock*. What rock posters of late-Eighties post-punk and last decade’s alternative rock explosion lack in sheer imagination – subbing pop culture imagery for the psychedelic baroque of first wave Sixties pioneers – is rendered moot by their roaring whirlpool of 21st-century life. In fact, the only thing missing from *Art of Modern Rock: The Poster Explosion* is a shot of Thorazine to come down after 492, 11-by-13-inch full-color supernovas. Kozik, Lindsey Kuhn, Lee Bolton, Jason Austin, Lyman Hardy, and Nels Jacobson, aka Jagmo, all current or one-time Austinites, help illustrate the first pages of *Poster Explosion*, hawking gigs like KGSR’s anniversary show, Emo’s recent Turbonegro poster-off, and an I Love You but I’ve Chosen Darkness pledge. Coop’s demonic Crumb-ling, John Seabury’s psychotic pineapple, Derek Hess’ industrial stone lithos – it’s practically a

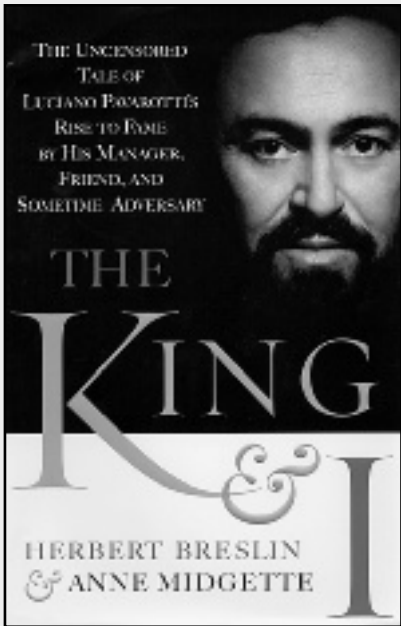


one-stop SXSW Flatstock. And that’s only the first chapter. Four-page spreads by Kuhn, Austin’s Factor 27, and even a snapshot of Red River rambler Billy Bishop nestle among the *Madicisms* of Ward Sutton, Dan Blakeslee & John Howard’s Dick Tracy line art, and David Witt & Tom Bagley’s noir. Guy Burwell’s Three Michelle Gun Elephant stand-ins would tickle any scarecrow. “The Devil Made Me Do It” chapter, with its two-page Sgt. Pepper exorcism (Chemical Brothers, Austin Music Hall), is offset by Tara McPherson’s Tim Burton feminism in “Power Tools.” Groupings of String Cheese, White Stripes, Donnas, Pearl Jam, and a large school of Phish are speared by propaganda for Ed Hall, Trail of Dead, and Joe Strummer. “New Realities” introduces the childlike androgyny of Leia Bell and Emek’s skeletal dynamism, while “No Boundaries” is an all-too-brief flip through postage from Italy, Germany, Australia, Croatia, Mexico, and Japan. No flu here, but you’ll still need that shot. – *Raoul Hernandez*

THE KING & I: THE UNCENSORED TALE OF LUCIANO PAVAROTTI’S RISE TO FAME BY HIS MANAGER, FRIEND, AND SOMETIME ADVERSARY

by Herbert Breslin and Anne Midgette
Doubleday, 308 pp., \$25.95

“Where.” “Pimp.” “People creamed in their pants.” Folks skimming pages of *The King & I* might think they’re reading about Lenny Bruce instead of Luciano Pavarotti. True to its verbose title, Pavarotti’s former manager offers a brutally frank account of opera’s biggest star. Beginning with his 1968 Met debut, Pavarotti has climbed the operatic ranks and beyond, including the renowned Three Tenors franchise. In his 70th year, Pavarotti recently announced his farewell tour, and Breslin is well-positioned to present a detailed yarn of the singer. With *Opera Times* and *New York Times* music writer Anne Midgette, Breslin imparts a looping chronology of the singer’s ascent, with background added sporadically. The narrative is peppered with anecdotes by relevant characters, yet given Pavarotti’s spot in the vox pantheon, *The King & I* cries for more cameos. While celebrating Lucky Luciano’s gifts, Breslin is equally critical of Pavarotti’s budgeting skills, self-assessment, diet, lyrical memory, ad nauseam. Even the tired Italian trope is applied: short temper, overt emotionality, etc. Some critiques are probably valid, but for a manager who works with other fickle artists, Breslin comes across as sour, even stating “a



woman will change her mind 500 times.” It’s likely Pavarotti hasn’t read the tome, yet he closes it: Throughout their 36-year relationship he and Breslin “were synchronized,” Breslin being his “wife in the opera.” Notwithstanding its appeal to opera mavens who subscribe to *Us*, *The King & I* is a bouncy read about a singer whose vocal cords were, according to famed conductor Herbert von Karajan, “kissed by God.” – *David Lynch*

THE WILCO BOOK

edited by Dan Nadel and Peter Buchanan-Smith
PictureBox Inc., 160 pp., \$29.95

You won’t find a Henry Miller essay in Avril Lavigne’s book. Part scrapbook, pseudo-album, and graphic designer’s wet dream, *The Wilco Book* is three parts indie pretension. Photographs of the band, writings by Tweedy et al., essays by Miller and Rick Moody, various paintings, and 12 unreleased tracks from the session for *A Ghost Is Born* – the *Book*’s certainly a cerebral amalgam of self-importance. But coffeetable gloss it isn’t. It’s organic fine print; “We try to avoid bright light,” reads one piece of microfont. Wilco is a group of gremlin rock & rollers: relentless yet frustrated, honest but private. Their lyricist is a frontman with migraines. *The Wilco Book*, with its scattered pictures and music, is just so, well ... Wilco. Wilco is experimental flux. “Maimed by rock and roll,” they maim it back – across media lines. Nevertheless, fans will buy this book for the music, and there are some gems here among the jam: the chamber-music grace-note give-and-take between the piano and guitar on “Diamond Claw”; and “Hummingbird (Soma),” a lo-fi, soft heartbeat alternative to the poppier version interrupting *A Ghost Is Born*. Although *The Wilco Book* is mostly steroid-fed liner notes and pretty geometry, you do learn about songwriting. You learn how Tweedy still can’t listen to “At Least That’s What You Said” without crying. Miller says once an artist is satisfied, he cannot create. Then he’s left “to piss the time away enjoyably.” People who write love songs can’t be satisfied by definition. – *Courtney Fitzgerald*

METALLICA: THIS MONSTER LIVES

by Joe Berlinger, with Greg Milner
St. Martin’s Press, 310 pp., \$24.95

Title aside, *Metallica: This Monster Lives* never misleads the reader into thinking it’s all about music. In fact, as readers learn, music was banned from author/filmmaker Joe Berlinger’s childhood home. Meaning, readers looking for insight into Metallica will be disappointed, while those looking for the same on Joe Berlinger will be delighted. *Metallica: This Monster Lives* exists as yet another offspring in the family tree of media surrounding the heavy metal band’s 2003 album *St. Anger*. There was the album, the tour, and Berlinger’s documentary *Some Kind of Monster* with partner Bruce Sinofsky. This makes the 50% of the book dedicated to the movie, and thus the album, redun-

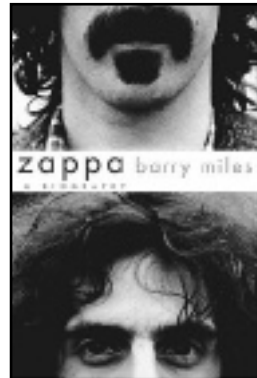


dant. Any anecdotes about making the film (about the making of the music) are shades of what viewers will already know. The fascinating stuff comes when Berlinger detours into chapters about his early successes and failures in the film world. Most compelling is Berlinger’s account of how he went from award-winning documentary director to the critically reviled horror helmer of *Book of Shadows: Blair Witch 2*. When *This Monster* dwells on Metallica, it’s less about their dynamics or songwriting and more about how Berlinger captured it. Berlinger is often heavy-handed, especially when he draws parallels between his filmmaking career and Metallica’s life in the music biz. “If you were to guess which creative partnership – Berlinger-Sinofsky or Metallica – was in the healthiest state, you’d have to go with the metal-heads,” he writes. If you were to guess which aspect of Metallica – the documentary or the album – was given the real close-up here, you’d have to go with the cinephiles. – *Matt Dentler*

ZAPPA: A BIOGRAPHY

by Barry Miles
Grove Press, 320 pp., \$25

With little in the way of original interviews or illuminating research, the best thing about Barry Miles’ biography of Frank Zappa is that it’s a mildly compelling literature review. Even casual fans will scoff at the notion of this being the definitive word on Zappa’s prolific musical catalog and tragicomic personal life. While the jacket blurb says Miles knew Zappa “personally,” his writing never embodies a sense of acquaintance, let alone intimacy. The fulcrum of Miles’ book is that Zappa was a man of troubling dichotomy, sabotaging ambitious compositions with poop talk, espousing civil liberties while snickering at gay sex, and staying married while partaking of groupies. Miles trumpets such banal hypocrisies as juicy insights into Zappa’s mindset. While the author provides some useful context through details of Zappa’s ancestral roots in Sicily and his formative stomping grounds in Southern California’s Inland Empire, it’s not enough to flesh out his character. Like a kangaroo court judge, Miles strings together third-hand anecdotes to create first-hand indictments. He states Zappa had no respect for his fans, but the majority of data Miles uses to confirm this only indicates that Zappa had no respect for what he perceived as idiocy in his audience or anyone else. Zappa’s railings could just as easily be construed as more respectful than typical artist-fan relationships. No one would deny that Zappa often exhibited calculated, misanthropic tendencies, but Miles eagerly paints the musician as a cold monster with no capacity for empathy. If that had been the case, it seems likely that Miles would’ve garnered more original interviews from those spurned by Zappa in the decade since his death from prostate cancer. Some of Miles’ bold assertions may well be true, but it’s going to take more than a pile of press clips to appease the skepticism his approach engenders. – *Greg Beets*



BRITPOP!: COOL BRITANNIA AND THE SPECTACULAR DEMISE OF ENGLISH ROCK

by John Harris

Da Capo Press, 426 pp., \$18.95

In 1997, in the UK, as went Oasis, so went the nation. Incoming Prime Minister Tony Blair, the giddily boyish face of New Labour, sailed into No. 10 Downing Street on a tidal wave of infectious British rock & roll neither heard nor seen since the heyday of the Stones/Beatles. Two days later, he was enjoying a glass of champagne with Noel Gallagher. It didn't last, of course. By that point, the musical movement known as Britpop had begun its slow sidle up alongside the great pop culture dole queue and Blair's pre-9/11 game face was already slipping sideways.

Nevertheless, it was the type of genuine fervor-and-lager-froth revolution that could never happen here, which makes it all the more interesting. Brit-rock critic John Harris manages the Herculean task of mining the politics and music of the time for further meaning, mainly, that the whole Britpop-and-Blair era was a sublimated attempt to distance the UK from ever-encroaching

Americanism. He comes up with an epic tragedy of near-Shakespearean proportions; Manchester-based Oasis may have been the biggest band in the world at one point, but that world didn't include, with the brief exception of their funeral wedding favorite "Wonderwall," the U.S. No matter. An ongoing rivalry with former allies/natural rivals Blur, peaking with Oasis' very rock & roll "I hope they all get AIDS" comment, kept things pleasantly insane. Most of all, Harris has captured a stunningly bleak love story between a lost nation and a handful of lost musicians, both dysfunctional, but also able to resurrect, if only for a short while, the kind of British pride-of-rock & roll that steamrolled through the Sixties. And don't forget: If not for the rise and self-dissolution of Britpop, we'd likely never have seen Radiohead crawl out from under the carcass.

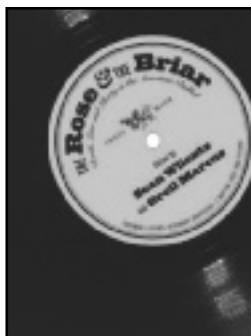
— Marc Savlov

THE ROSE & THE BRIAR: DEATH, LOVE AND LIBERTY IN THE AMERICAN BALLAD

edited by Sean Wilentz and Greil Marcus
W.W. Norton & Company, 320 pp., \$26.95

"Ballad" is one of the least understood words in the English language. Over the course of several centuries its meaning has shifted from a way to preserve history — stories of war, the Bible, that which is now referred to as traditional folk music — to its current definition, related to almost any song presented in an acoustic style.

The Rose & the Briar is an unconventional look at the American ballad through the eyes of 23 writers, critics, poets, musicians, and artists. Edited by Princeton history professor Saul Wilentz and music critic Emeritus Greil Marcus, it seeks to create



something new by offering disparate voices the opportunity to interpret a tune of their choice, and, as one might expect, the choices are occasionally curious. The most amusing is R. Crumb, who illustrates "When You Go a Courtin'" in his own inimitable style, then manages to dismiss all music made after World War II in the reproduction of two letters to Marcus that accompany the cartoon. Also of note are Joyce Carol Oates as the daughter of a fictitious singer who popularizes "Little Maggie," Anna Domino's inhabitation of the soon-to-be-drowned "Omie Wise," Cecil Brown delving deep into the history behind "Frankie and Albert" (or "Frankie and Johnny"), Luc Sante glimpsing one 1902 night in New Orleans via "Buddy Bolden's Blues," and Paul Berman's riveting personal experience with

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“Volver, Volver.” In the present are contributions on songs from Dylan, Springsteen, Randy Newman, and Dolly Parton that knowledgeably tie them to the past. As a whole, *Rose & Briar* is a mostly engaging read that swings from highly entertaining to mildly annoying. A Sony/Legacy CD tie-in falls mostly into the former category.

– Jim Caligiuri

QUEEN: THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF DINAH WASHINGTON
by Nadine Cohodas

Pantheon Books, 523 pp., \$24.95

Dinah Washington had a way with songs. That bittersweet, clarion voice, grounded in gospel, was ideally suited for blues, R&B, pop, and even rock & roll. Her instinctive interpretive skills were a natural for jazz and allowed her to turn ballads and pop pabulum into gems of soulful expression. The triumvirate of Billie, Ella, and Sarah may occupy the upper echelons of female jazz singers, but Dinah (as she was commonly referred to) was right there



with them. The title “Queen of the Blues” came early in her career, but the more fitting “Queen of the Jukeboxes” reflected the fact that she was the most popular black female vocalist of the 1950s. *Queen* is a painstakingly researched bio by Nadine Cohodas, who’s also written about Chess Records. She’s certainly thorough in tracing how Ruth Jones worked her way from being a child gospel singer in Chicago to the heights of pop stardom as Dinah Washington. Cohodas catalogs every gig in every city for every year, complete with more than 60 pages of exhaustive footnotes, extensive quotes from trade publications like *Billboard* and *Cash Box*, and a complete discography. What’s lacking amid the endless facts is the human side of Washington. Her huge artistry aside, the singer had a flamboyant, obsessive personality and lived an extraordinarily colorful life replete with seven husbands, the last of whom was Austin-born football star Dick “Night Train” Lane. More first-person recollections of her life and especially her career would’ve enlivened this book – not gossip, but rather more oral history from musicians, record executives, club owners, fans, and family to help fill the gaps between the facts. As it stands, there’s more than enough evidence to see that Dinah Washington truly was “The Queen.”

– Jay Trachtenberg

WEATHER BIRD: JAZZ AT THE DAWN OF ITS SECOND CENTURY
by Gary Giddins

Oxford University Press, 632 pp., \$35

There are reasons for Gary Giddins, long the chief jazz critic for the *Village Voice*, being one of the most highly respected and well-known jazz critics in the country. He’s an articulate, sometimes witty writer, whose prose style may please readers more than what he has to say about music. He’s got a better knowledge of the technical side of music than most critics. He’s inter-

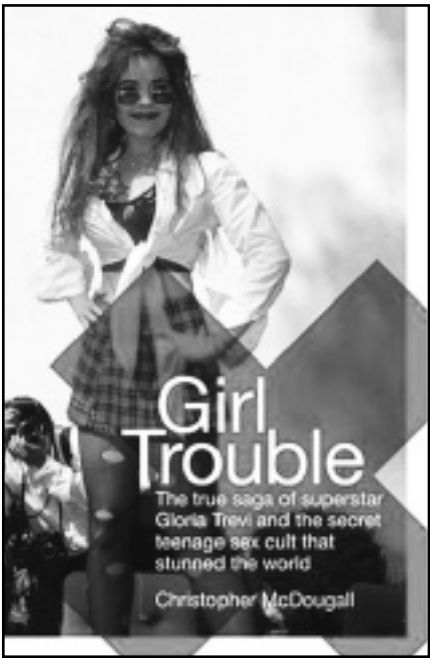
ested in and writes about all eras of jazz history and seems to enjoy the music of every jazz movement. *Weather Bird* collects columns and essays Giddins has written for the *Voice* and other publications since 1990. Frequently they’re reviews of recordings, concerts, and club appearances that he writes about reasonably; at least he attempts to back up his views. There are a couple of areas where I have differences with him, however. One regards his attitude toward retro jazzmen, such as Scott Hamilton, Warren Vaché, and “The Young Lions,” e.g., Wynton Marsalis (although he did blast Marsalis’ *Blood on the Fields*), James Carter, and Mark Whitfield. Giddins doesn’t seem to draw a distinction between the reactionaries and the originators of the styles they copy. There have been reactionary movements in many art forms, but when the copiers get more attention than the innovators I think it’s time to make note of it. I’m also concerned about the overconfidence Giddins displays in his essay “How Come Jazz Isn’t Dead?” He writes, “The notion that jazz is dead or could die in the foreseeable future is predicated on one of two ideas: It is a narrow musical style with fixed parameters or a passing fashion that has had its day. A century of developments puts paid to both.” Actually, many jazz enthusiasts have been rightly alarmed at plummeting jazz sales (currently 2% of the market), lack of radio time, club closings, and a shrinking job market. Avant garde classical and jazz styles are resembling each other more and more, and someday may unite, saving both. In any event, however, this is no time for complacency.

– Harvey Pekar

DJANGO: THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF A GYPSY LEGEND
by Michael Dregni

Oxford University Press, 278 pp., \$35

In the jazz guitar pantheon, Eddie Lang, Django Reinhardt, and Charlie Christian form an unchallenged triumvirate of early innovators and standard setters. For almost 70 years since he burst into international popularity, Reinhardt has remained a favorite of jazz aficionados and general listeners alike. Yet until now, the only biography of the gypsy guitarist has been Charles Delaunay’s brief 1961 work, a fun but dated and underresearched book. With *Django: The Life and Music of a Gypsy Legend*, Michael Dregni has



ROCKPILE

Although the blockbuster Dylan biography dominates the season’s rock & roll books, there are dozens and dozens more of note, including another half-dozen titles here. The least notable is ***Bad Music: The Music We Love to Hate***, edited by Christopher J. Washburne and Maiken Derno (Routledge, 366 pp., \$24.95, paper). This collection of essays is a remarkably dry approach to a topic rich with irony and humor. That Routledge is a primarily academic publisher is the clue that this pricey paperback isn’t for the masses. Here’s a quote from Joe Carducci in Deena Weinstein’s “Rock Critics Need Bad Music”: “Rock writers have ignored the reality of rock – the music – in an attempt to promote their sociopolitical hegemony over the intellectual life of the pop medium.” Weinstein is addressing heavy metal, but Carducci’s comment, while true, layers on the academic babble that’s dogged the pleasure of listening.

Unless you’re an aficionado of Eighties international pop artists, Gloria Trevi probably didn’t cross your radar. Yet ***Girl Trouble: The True Saga of Superstar Gloria Trevi and the Secret Teenage Sex Cult That Stunned the World*** by Christopher McDougall (Rayo Books, 288 pp., \$24.95) is as sordid as it is horrifying. The story of Trevi’s manipulated rise to fame as a Mexican singing star in the late Eighties is as grim as the subject – she recruited teenage girls for her producer-lover and turned a blind eye to their rape, abuse, and kidnapping. McDougall’s well-researched tale of Trevi’s scandalous trials and prison time is alternate-

ly filled that void. Dregni is a storyteller, and this is both his strength and weakness. The tales and characters are rich, engaging, and sometimes unbelievably funny: from the bitter 1895 Parisian war between bagpipers and accordions to “The Sublime Gregor and the Gregorians,” lead by an Armenian Turk boxer turned dancer turned bandleader and impresario. Where Dregni falters is in his inability to resist novelistic, undocumentable details and occasional lapses into melodrama. While the book is thoroughly

ly lurid and repellent, but not a particularly satisfying read.

As an antidote, ***The Rocklopedia Fakebandica*** by T. Mike Childs (Thomas Dunne Books, 244 pp., \$14.95) makes for great light reading. The book’s billing as “the comprehensive reference guide to fictional bands and singers from television and movies from the 1950s to today” says it all, as you’ll find Spinal Tap, the Commitments, and the Partidge Family filed with Sweet Sue & the Synchopators, Phoebe Buffay, and Lili Von Shtupp. *Fakebandica* freely admits its limitation and incompleteness, thereby freeing itself from the tethers of trivia freaks looking to trip it up.

Da Capo Best Music Writing 2004 by Paul Bresnick, the series editor, and Mickey Hart, a guest editor (Da Capo, 360 pp., \$15.95), is an annual compendium of criticism on rock, hip-hop, jazz, pop, country, and more, though its annual boast of “the best” is always somewhat questionable. When it’s good, it’s very, very good (Michael Corcoran’s excellent “Blind Willie Johnson”), but when it’s bad, it’s boring (Jessica Hopper’s convoluted “Emo”). Still, Chuck Klosterman’s “6557 Miles to Nowhere” from *Spin* is a riveting treatise of his journey of rock & roll death sites. There’s Nancy Spungen’s bloody death at NYC’s Chelsea Hotel, the Great White barbecue in Rhode Island, the lonesome Mississippi swamp where Lynyrd Skynyrd’s plane crashed, and the greenhouse site in Seattle where Kurt Cobain closed his eyes and sucked on the barrel of a shotgun. It’s unsettlingly good.

Cobain’s bandmate Krist Novoselic tackles political apathy among youth with ***Of Grunge and Government: Let’s Fix This Broken Democracy!*** (RDV/Akashic Books, 104 pp., \$9.95, paper). The slim, earnest volume is half autobiography and half call to arms, written in Novoselic’s intelligent, even tone. His social conscience and political commitment to everything from electoral reform to community issues makes one thing clear: If Hollywood can spin stars into government positions, it’s high time rock & roll began doing the same. Kinky Friedman for governor!

Dixie Lullaby: A Story of Music, Race, and New Beginnings in a New South by Mark Kemp (Free Press, 296 pp., \$26) is likewise part memoir, part rumination. Kemp, however, sees the rise of Southern rock as nonapologetic equalization for the generations that came after desegregation. That’s not unusual; Lucinda Williams, REM, Steve Earle, and the Drive-by Truckers bridge that gap in their music, but literature hasn’t caught up with it until *Dixie Lullaby*. Moving past cornpone accents and shotgun mentality, Kemp embraces the region’s imperfections as well as its strength and instills an unapologetic sense of pride and accomplishment in those of us who made the journey before and after he did.

– Margaret Moser

researched and heavily documented, this poetic license is both unnecessary and unwarranted. The text also begs for photographs, as well as an annotated list of recordings, and with a \$35 price tag, the reader has a right to expect both. Sadly, the only picture herein is an unfortunate drawing on the cover that depicts Reinhardt’s famously crippled left hand looking perfectly healthy. The editors and their budgets likely share blame for these weaknesses, but despite its flaws, *Django* works. The reader comes away

with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the guitarist and his music. At only 278 pages, there's room for future volumes on Django Reinhardt's life, but for now this is the book for any fan, and it's worth the time. If this is a gift, throw in a few more bucks, get the Delaunay book as well (which has both photos and a recording list), and your recipient will have a collection of the complete written works on the seminal guitarist Django Reinhardt.

— Graham Reynolds

HIP: THE HISTORY

by John Leland

Ecco/HarperCollins, 405 pp., \$26.95

Standing strategically at the crossroads of America's multiracial divide, hip navigates floods of cultural mud as if dancing with style. Arriving in this "sweet land of liberty" by way of shackles and chains, the elusive concept of hip is traced by *New York Times* journalist John Leland back to West Africa where in the Wolof language, *hipi* means "to open one's eyes." Always one step ahead of the pack, hip is driven by the sheer necessity to survive within an ever-changing amalgam of societal pressure. Typically at odds with the dominant and wholly square American zeitgeist, Leland paints his subject as a subterranean phenomenon. Whether that's Transcendentalists taking to the woods, the Lost Generation taking to Paris, or beatniks taking to "whoa baby c'mon," iconoclasm has always been the name of the game. Charlie Parker didn't just parrot jazz standards; he put wings on them suckers and sent them to the moon. Neither did cyber punks merely play *Asteroids* for days on end as they instead busied themselves with the task of transforming Neuromantic fiction into reality. While *Hip: The History* may read like a cursory overview to those already well-schooled on the connections between Clarksdale, Miss., and the South Bronx, N.Y.; it quickly becomes amusing to witness Leland juggle the impossibility of coherently defining such an enigmatic abstraction. Whimsically dissecting a Bugs Bunny of historical flesh for any evidence of an underlying method to its madness, the book reveals the practice of signifying as the ideal manifestation of the American situation. Every trickster worth his salt, from Tom Sawyer to Eminem, utilizes the converging differences between us to his advantage. It's the melting pot in action, with hip acting as the firebrand that keeps Hell's Kitchen bubbling with foresight.

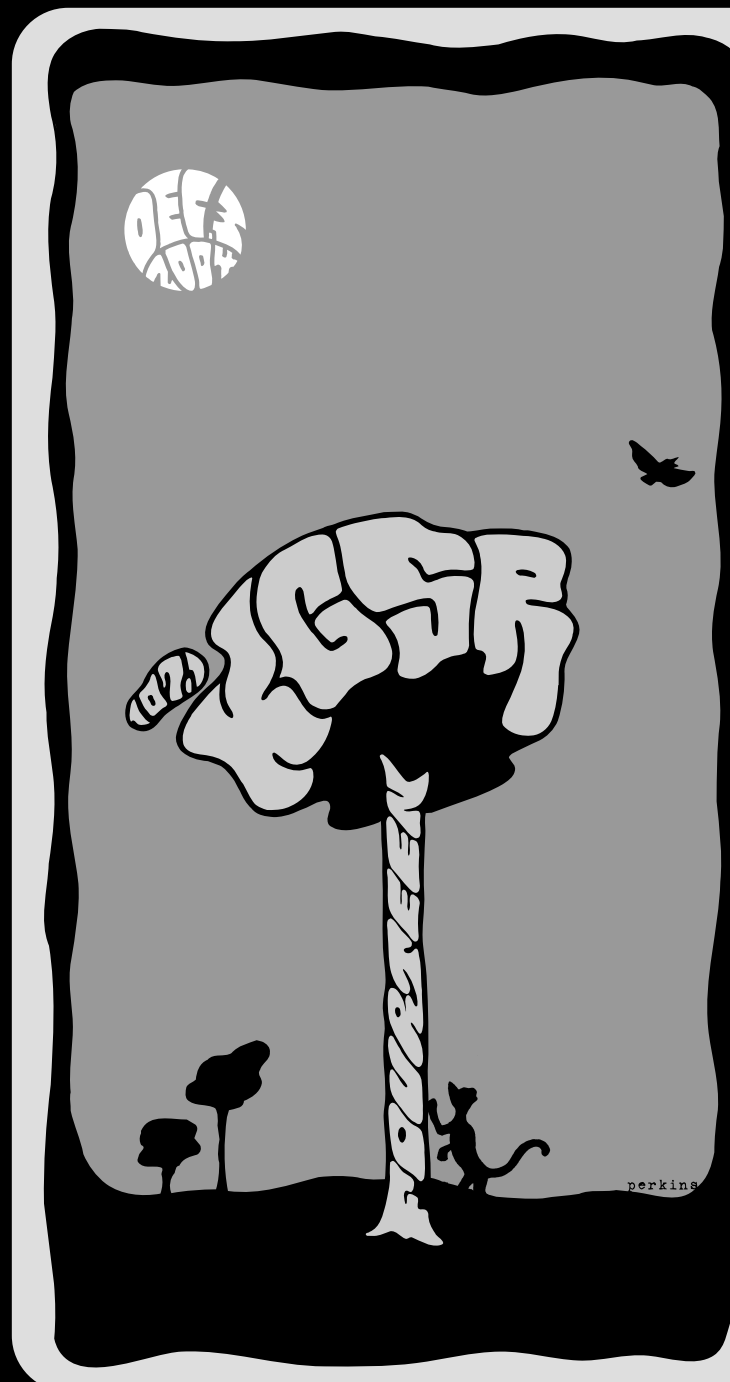
— Robert Gabriel

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LEAD STORY

"Anal-wart researcher" (visual inspection being the only way to detect anal cancer from the human papillomavirus) heads *Popular Science* magazine's second annual November list of the worst jobs in science. However, "worm parasitologist" can be just as challenging, especially for anyone studying the *Dracunculus medinensis* (which can settle in humans to a length of three feet and then must be removed carefully after its thousands of offspring burst through the skin). Other contenders: "tampon squeezer" for the study of vaginal infections; a Lyme-disease "tick attractor" (who must sing, to keep bears away, while trolling in the woods); and "monitors" at warm-climate landfills (where garbage has been reduced to steamy, liquid condensates).

MAJORITY RULES

Perhaps the strangest election result this year was in Orange County, Calif., where a school board seat went not to the favored establishment candidate but to an unknown, Steve Rocco, who never campaigned or even appeared in public. (He did tell a friend after the election that he would appear at the board meeting on Dec. 9.) Among the little information known about him: His candidate registration included one page of (according to the *Los Angeles Times*) "densely typed text cut and pasted together, and filled with rambling prose," and several years ago, he hosted a 17-episode interview series on public-access TV while wearing dark glasses.

SUSPICIONS CONFIRMED

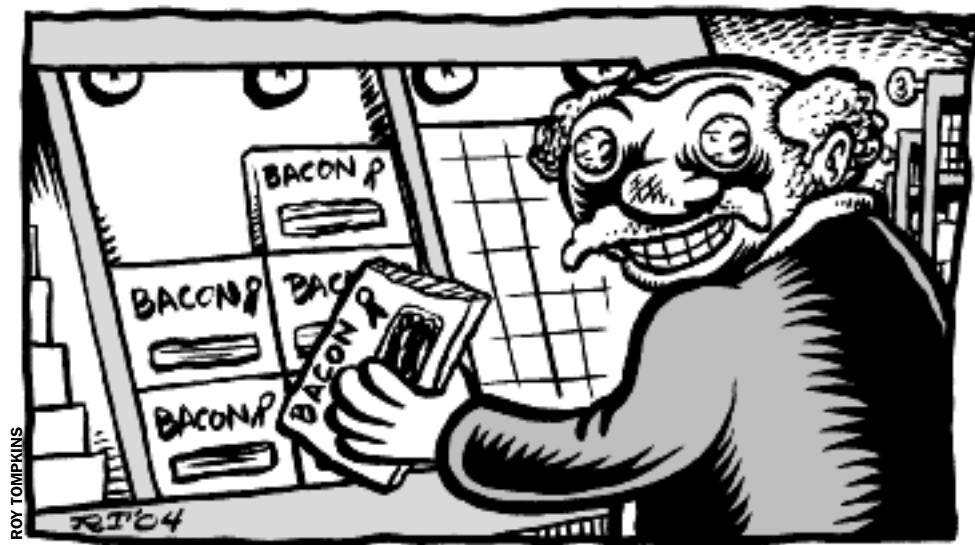
In November, four University of Memphis basketball players, who share an apartment on campus, reported a break-in, with items missing (according to the police report obtained by WPTY-TV) including \$6,000 worth of shoes, \$4,000 of custom-made shirts, \$6,000 of trousers, and \$40,000 of mink coats.

MORE SCENES OF THE SURREAL

While demonstrations about Iraq usually either support the troops or criticize U.S. involvement, a group of porn-video actresses staged an idiosyncratic protest in August in Los Angeles, denouncing the U.S. military for offering breast implants to female soldiers (as a way to help keep combat surgeons sharp for battle-related plastic surgery). (One sign read, "Honk if you love natural breasts.")

NEW WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



The September nomination of Michael Kostiw as executive director of the CIA was withdrawn almost immediately when *The Washington Post* revealed that he, while in a previous stint with the agency, had been caught shoplifting a \$2.13 package of bacon from a Langley, Va., grocery store.

QUESTIONABLE JUDGMENTS

- Asking for Trouble From the Spirits: Kenneth Rabalais, 19, was charged with desecrating a grave in a suburb of New Orleans after he opened the crypt of a young relative, believing that other relatives had buried "tribute" money and drugs to help ease the deceased's transition to the afterworld. (Apparently, the deceased left untributed.) And in Hawaii, Wal-Mart opened a store in October despite warnings that it had been built on an ancient grave site (and, indeed, the remains of 44 bodies turned up during construction). (Wal-Mart said it is protecting the remains while it seeks state approval to rebury them.)

- Colin Hancock, a convicted drug dealer serving time in Perth Prison in Scotland, filed a lawsuit in October, asking the equivalent of about \$55,000 because of an improper rectal exam (responding to his symptom of urine blockage) given by a prison physician. Dr. Alexander MacFarlane said he was forced to use, as lubricant, milk from a bowl of porridge because that was all the prison had on hand.

OOPS!

- In August, a pilot, cruising over Forest Grove, Ore., on assignment, reached out the window to scatter the cremated ashes of a man over the Mountain View Memorial

Gardens, but the 4-pound bag slipped out of his hand, eventually crashing through the roof of Barbara Vreeland's dwelling, located near the cemetery. The deceased's family paid for the damage, but Vreeland later told a reporter, "I think some of (him) is still in our attic."

- The child pornography collections allegedly belonging to two men were inadvertently exposed in separate incidents in October. Robert Medvee was arrested in Frederick, Md., on 96 counts after workers spotted a stash as they were making repairs on his home following recent tornado damage. And part of the collection of the late Todd Darow was spotted by police, who had gone to his home in Livonia, Mich., to inform his widow that Darow's body had been found (at a church where he was a part-time custodian). (A search of the house turned up a more extensive holding, including videotapes of children being molested in the church restroom.)

CRÈME DE LA WEIRD

In October, Los Alamos National Laboratory nuclear research officials evicted Roy M. Moore, 56, who had been living for years, apparently undetected, in a hard-to-access cave on the grounds (though not in a high-security area of the property). Moore had equipped his cave with a wood-burning stove, solar panels, a bed, a glass door, and satellite radio. And in Houston in October, police calling at the home of Ronnie Luhn, 37, regarding the theft of a newspaper vending box, arrested him after finding 181 of them crammed floor-to-ceiling in the one-bedroom house he shared with his wife and three children.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

1) Frances Lea Shaw, 41, was charged with arson of her home in Greensburg, Pa., in August after police and firefighters discovered that her most valuable household items (clothes, TV set, microwave oven) had already been placed in the yard under a heavy tarp by the time they arrived at her burning home. 2) John DeWitt, 18, fled from a security guard at the Orlando Ale House (Orlando, Fla.) in September after the guard suspected he was about to burglarize the building, but DeWitt's flight ended when he climbed into what he thought was a garbage can in order to hide but which turned out to be discarded restaurant grease.

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnews@earthlink.net
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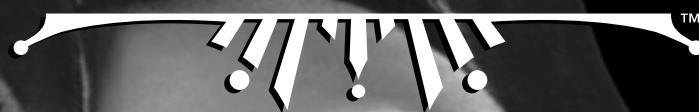
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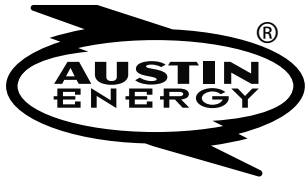


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BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

Friday 3

A Christmas Carol Roasting on an Open Fire
(Theatre)

ACC Dance Department: Fall Choreographer's Showcase *(Dance)*

Austin Singers: A Baroque Christmas Beyond Bach *(Dance)*

The Space *(Visual Arts)*

Young Heart Attack, Rebirth Brass Band *(Music)*

Film Openings: Closer, WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception

Saturday 4

Chinese Golden Dragon Acrobats *(Theatre)*

Matt Sadler *(Comedy)*

Austin Classical Guitar Society: Jeremy Jouvé
(Classical)

Holiday Swing *(Community)*

La Peña *(Visual Arts)*

Spoon *(Music)*

Sunday 5

Hemophiliacs *(Theatre)*

Cantus: Holiday Concert *(Classical)*

Lounging With Digital Performance Art *(Visual Arts)*

Scissor Sisters, Rita Coolidge Holiday Show
(Music)

Monday 6

Utter Readings *(Litera)*

Rob Halverson's Earchostra CD Release; RJD2, Lyrics Born *(Music)*

Tuesday 7

Austin Symphony Orchestra: Messiah *(Classical)*

Girl Fight *(Community)*

RJD2, Lyrics Born *(Music)*

Wednesday 8

Costaki Economopoulos *(Comedy)*

Gary Soto *(Litera)*

Austin Theremonic Orchestra *(Music)*

Film Openings: Blade: Trinity

Thursday 9

U.S. Maple, Gretchen Phillips *(Music)*



South Africa's Sinikithemba Choir brings their glorious message of hope to Project Transitions and the Paramount Theatre. (See "The Gay Place" for details.)

community

Events

BY BARBARA CHISHOLM

FUNDRAISER FOR VASUDEVA Elea and Ray are parents of a little boy who underwent emergency surgery to remove a cancerous tumor while they were visiting in Seattle. They are now stranded, far away from home, and it looks like they'll be there for a while. Come for music and libations under the oaks while helping this family in need. *Thu., Dec. 2, 6-9pm. The Great Outdoors Garden Center, 2730 S. Congress, 448-2992. All donations accepted.*

HOLIDAY SHINDIG FOR SAFE HAVEN ANIMAL RESCUE *Thu., Dec. 2, 6-10pm. Therapy, 1113 S. Congress, 326-2331. www.therapyclothing.com.*

FIRST THURSDAZE Austin Daze celebrates the release of their 50th issue. Check Club Listings for more. *Thu., Dec. 2, 8pm. Ruta Maya Coffee House, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637. www.austindaze.com.*

AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER HOLIDAY SALE features rare books, photos, collectibles, postcards, and Waterloo Press publications – including *Writing Austin's Lives*, the compendium of more than 100 stories produced by the UT Humanities Institute. (AHCA and Friends of the Austin Public Library members can enjoy a special Friday night preview featuring dramatic readings from W.A.L. by, among others, the *Chronicle's* own Wayne Alan Brenner.) *Sat, Dec. 4, 10am-4pm. Austin History Center, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7499. info@ahca.net.*

FLANNEL & GLITTER: FABULOUS ART FOR FABULOUS PEOPLE! See "Gay Place" for more. *Fri., Dec. 3, 7pm-12mid. The Space, 4804 Airport Blvd., 791-5123.*

WELLNESS SPA OPEN HOUSE How does a free massage sound? How about some stress-relief tips for surviving the holidays? Everybody needs to be spoiled now and again, and these guys just might have the spoiling you're looking for. Get it while it's cheap! *Fri., Dec. 3, 4-8pm. The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 258-7243. Free. www.omegacrossings.com.*

BHOPAL AWARENESS DAY marks the 20th anniversary of one of the worst industrial disasters in history. To this day, an estimated 10-15 people a month are dying as a result of a gas leak from a pesticide factory (currently owned by Dow Chemicals) in Bhopal, India. Come learn more. *Fri., Dec. 3, 10am-5pm. UT campus, West Campus Mall. Free. www.bhopal.net.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: *The Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the **Monday** of the week prior to the issue in which you wish to have your event published. **The deadline for the Dec. 16 issue is Monday, Dec. 6.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description of the event, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

All listings are free and printed on a space-available basis. While we strive for comprehensive coverage of Austin-area events, we cannot guarantee publication of any submission, but submitting by deadline can only help.

EVENTS | MUSEUMS | SPORTS

BLACK WOMEN'S POLITICAL CAUCUS will celebrate their 33rd anniversary and Chairperson **Mae Marion's** birthday. *Fri., Dec. 3, 5pm. Midtown Live, 7408 Cameron, 495-9088.*

UT SUSTAINABLE BUILDING BENEFIT CONCERT See Club Listings for more. *Fri., Dec. 3. Longbranch Inn, 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477. www.hogardelviento.com.*

DRIVE AGAINST PROSTATE CANCER Two days of free screenings aboard a 39-foot Airstream Land Yacht XL. Nice ride. *Dec. 3 & 6. Fri., 9am-5pm: Austin-American Statesman, 305 S. Congress; Mon., 9-11am: Texas State Capitol, 11th & Congress. Mon., noon-7pm: I-35 & 11th. Free.*

FLATBED PRESS HOLIDAY SALE has live music, food, and special prices on original lithographs, etchings, and woodcuts by local and national artists. *Sat., Dec. 4, 1-6pm. Flatbed Press, 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.*

GERMAN-TEXAS HERITAGE SOCIETY CHRISTMAS MARKET *Sat., Dec. 4, 10am-4pm. German-Texas Heritage Society, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927.*

MAGNET FAIR No funnel cakes on the Tilt-a-Whirl here – just students (and parents) interested in applying to a magnet school learning what magnet-ism is all about. *Sat., Dec. 4, 9am-noon. Kealing Middle School, 1607 Pennsylvania Ave., 414-9986.*

THE CHINESE GOLDEN DRAGON ACROBATS *Sat., Dec. 4, 3 & 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$15-30. www.austintheatrealliance.org.*

HOLIDAY SWING Come an hour early to this Big Band-themed shebang for dance lessons while the Sentimental Journey Orchestra and the Studebakers kick out the swing. This year's gala also features the **Sinikithemba Choir**, a South African Zulu choir. See "Gay Place" for more. *Sat., Dec. 4, 8pm-12mid. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 454-8646. \$40 (advance tickets are available from BookWoman, Tapelender's, Top Drawer Thrift, and Project Transitions). www.projecttransitions.org.*

ASIAN HOLIDAY BAZAAR *Sat., Dec. 4, 10am-5pm. Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville Rd., 336-5069.*

HOLIDAY SING-ALONG AND TREE LIGHTING KUT's John Aielli leads traditional carols before the tree goes up in lights and a crowd of Christmas-y types will stroll down Congress, taking advantage of merchants open late and in the holiday mood. And, for goodness sakes, don't forget to bring a food donation for the Capital Area Food Bank. *Sat., Dec. 4, 6-8pm. Texas State Capitol, 1200 N. Congress, 469-1766. Free. www.downtownaustin.com.*

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Kate X Messer or Kate Getty (The Gay Place): **gayplace@austinchronicle.com.**

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com.**

Everything else: **calendar@austinchronicle.com.**

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or **brenner@austinchronicle.com.**



The jingle belles rock ...
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◀ ◀ ◀ ◀ ◀



What a Nutcracker!
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Shear energy ...
Music, p.104
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The Gay Place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

ZACH'S GONE WILDE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Marking the end of this year's block of Wilde parties in the truest of wham-bam-thank-you-ma'am fashion, there'll be a soiree with cocktails, appetizers, and plenty of schmooze, followed by the flamboyant musical *Rockin' Holiday Party*. The flashy, glitzy, and oh-so-decadent play helps to bring a much-needed mo-town flare to Santa Claus Lane, and is sure to have you dancing to a new kind of jingle bell rock. Get yer tix now, they're sure to sell out. *Thu., Dec. 2, 6:30pm. Zach Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1.*

FIRST FRIDAY DINNER CLUB This group of professional gay men and women meets on the first Friday of each month. Hence the name. *Fri., Dec. 3. firstfridays-subscribe@yahoo.com.*

PROJECT TRANSITIONS is sending out the call-up! They need some special **Holiday Volunteers** for **Holiday Swing** on *Sat., Dec. 4*, and for Top Drawer Thrift Store through the end of the year. Also see their Holiday Wish List, among others on p.44. 454-8646. reichert@projecttransitions.org.

SAPPHIRE If you're the type of lady who prefers game nights, movie nights, lazy Sunday brunches, and Sapphic book clubs to all-night stomps through the Warehouse District, well, these are your peeps. Check the Web site for the where and when. All ages welcome. 833-5040. www.sapphire.org.

TACT Transgender Advocates of Central Texas is an advocacy group dedicated to furthering the cause of Gender Diverse people in Central Texas through education in both private and public forums. *TACT meets the first Tuesday of the month. 448-6354.*

OZ PARTIES ANNIVERSARY Congress Avenue's martini mecca will be the place this Saturday night, as we celebrate the anniversary of the OZ Parties, shindigs for people affected by AIDS. The public is invited. There's no cover, just lots of camaraderie and solidarity! *Sat., Dec. 4, 7pm. 1920s Club, 918 Congress, 479-7979.*

POETRY IN WARTIME War, huh (good god, y'all), what is it good for? Absolutely *nut'n*. Say! Leave it to the lovelies at **ALLGO** to screen a new feature-length documentary film with a real mission: to change the way the world thinks and talks about war. An exploration through the images and words of international poets, the film inspires the reality, horror, and sadness of war, laced with a profound sense of hope. Dialogue facilitated by ever-wonderful Jennifer Margulies. *Wed., Dec. 8, 7-9pm. ALLGO, 701 Tillery, 472-2001 x106. Donations accepted. www.allgo.org.*

HOLIDAY SWINGIN' WITH PROJECT TRANSITIONS Oh, it don't mean a thing if it don't got that swing. Or martinis. Or a special performance by the Sinikithemba Choir, a (HIV-positive) Zulu choir from South Africa. Throw in a 22-piece orchestra playing swing music, swing lessons to boot, a silent auction to get your bid on, and we have ourselves a party so swingin' you'll step, ball, change your way through the night. Proceeds benefit Project Transitions' hospice and housing programs for those living with HIV/AIDS. *Sat., Dec. 4, 7pm-12mid. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 454-8646. \$45 (\$40, in advance) www.projecttransitions.org.*

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET BIRTHDAY BASH *Sat., Dec. 4, 11am-1pm. Republic Square Park, Fourth & Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.*

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR BENEFIT Meet local garden club members and shop for unique gifts, including handcrafted ornaments. Pick up poinsettias, plants, and garden bulbs. *Sat., Dec. 4, 10am-4pm. Zilker Park Botanical Gardens, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672. www.zilker.org.*

AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER & AUSTIN PUBLIC LIBRARY SALE features Texana books, original paintings, and prints of historic Austin images. Give a little bit of Texas to your out-of-town friends and a little bit back to Austin's historical preservation. *Sat., Dec. 4, 11am-4pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 974-7499, 974-7551. www.ahca.net, www.austinlibrary.org.*

FROM AFRICA TO AUSTIN: A GOSPEL JOURNEY We can't get enough of the **Sinikithemba Choir**, bringing hope like only a HIV-positive Zulu choir from South Africa can. Their talent and exuberance are uncanny, with special performances by Donna Hightower, the Kyle Family, and Bells of Joy. *Mon., Dec. 6, 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470.*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SIDEKICKS! Can you believe it? This weekend marks a year since the opening of the double club palace on Riverside. It's been a whole year of throw-downs, strip-offs, steak-outs, hoedowns, come-ons, and hook-ups. And ooh, the stories! Well, that was last year. Now's the time to make some new stories. Happy First Year, y'all. *Sidekicks/Xtreme, 110 E. Riverside, 804-2707, 947-2594. www.sidekicksaustin.com.*

FOODIES The informal e-mail-based social network for women who love women is "kicking it up a notch," as they oversay in the mainstream foodie-world. In addition to Foodies' regular weekly meet-up (different spots and days featured each week), they're throwing some other events into the mix — like the upcoming Ultra-Ultra holiday party and production of *The Holiday Affront* (they still need crew). Come nourish. The next meet-up is at Taj Palace. E-mail Kitty for more and to RSVP. *Mon., Dec. 6, 7pm. Spider House, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. beatsagogo@aol.com or ultraultra@gmail.com.*

QUEER EYE'S CARSON KRESSLEY All hail the queen. The sultan of style, the sassiest of sass, the queerest of them all, it's **Carson Kressley**. He's got more "hey" than lil' gay horsies. He's the beautiful, blond wiseass who's been rocking a mullet since before we knew mullets could rock (sorry, Billy Ray). He's but one of the Fab 5, but he's enough, speaking at UT to surely teach us the way of the gay. *Hey. Thu., Dec. 2, 7pm. Texas Union Ballroom, 24th and Guadalupe. Free with limited passes.*

FLANNEL & GLITTER: FABULOUS ART FOR FABULOUS PEOPLE! Shout Texas, the Central Lone Star's new gay paper, presents an **Art Opening** for gay artists from Texas and that other state, California. The works of Lee Vanderpool, Randy "Biscuit" Turner, Ben Aqua, Jill Emery, among others, will be in the spotlight. The show runs through the end of the month. *Fri., Dec. 3, 7pm. The Space, 4804 Airport Blvd., 791-5123.*

UT GENDER & SEXUALITY CENTER is up and open for business. For access to their listserv, loaded with great info on issues and events, send an e-mail to: gsc@uts.cc.utexas.edu. *UT Gender & Sexuality Center, Dean of Students Office, Student Services Building, 100 W. Dean Keeton Rm. 1.302, 232-4680. www.utexas.edu/depts/dos.*

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar online:*
austinchronicle.com. Send gay bits to
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

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Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 12th, 6 p.m.
Central Presbyterian Church
200 E. 8th St. (8th and Brazos)

Directed by Gene Galbraith.

Program includes works by Handel, Beethoven, Victoria, and arrangements of traditional Christmas favorites.

ACSSM is a 501C3 non-profit organization.

FLATBED PRESS HOLIDAY SHOWING

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DAY *trips*

BY GERALD E. McLEOD

The Big Texan Steak Ranch in Amarillo might be the most famous steak house in the world, or at least in Texas. During the last 40 years, the restaurant has built an international reputation on giving away 72-oz. steaks.

For those of you mathematically handicapped, 72 ounces translates into about 4½ pounds of prime sirloin steak. That's a hunk of meat about the size of a big-city telephone book. Add to that the side dishes, and you've got a Texas-sized meal.

"It's pretty amazing how many people have tried, but not many have succeeded," says Hody Porterfield, the guest relations manager for the restaurant. Part of Porterfield's job includes administering the 72-oz. steak challenge.

According to the restaurant's records, about 30,000 diners have made the attempt, but only a few more than 5,000 have been up to the feat. Porterfield says that the shortest amount of time ever taken to finish off one of their steaks is 9½ minutes. The oldest person to eat one was a 69-year-old grandmother, and the youngest was an 11-year-old boy. Klondike Bill, a professional wrestler, is still famous for having eaten two of the steaks within an hour. "No one has died yet from trying," Porterfield says, "but more than a couple have left in a wheelbarrow."

The Big Texan began in 1959, when R.J. Lee moved to Amarillo to serve meals at the airport. He opened the Texan on old Route 66 when he couldn't find a good steak house in town. Lee followed the traffic to the present location when I-40 was opened in the early 1970s.

Porterfield says the old restaurant was about a block from the feedlot. On payday the cowboys would come in saying, "I'm hungry enough to eat a whole cow." One Friday in 1963, Lee lined up a bunch of cowpokes for an eating contest. Each paid for a steak dinner, but the one who could eat the most got his money back. The winner ate 62 ounces of steak. Lee upped the ante by 10 ounces, and his world-famous promotion was born. At the time, the steak dinner cost \$9.95.

The rules for getting a free steak are relatively simple. You pay for the \$54 sirloin steak in advance. If you finish it – plus a dinner salad, shrimp cocktail, baked potato, and a roll – in 60 minutes or less, you get your money back. "You don't have to eat the gristle or fat," he says, "but there's not much on these steaks."

In addition to eating all of the food, the contestant can't stand or leave the table once the timer starts. If you get sick; you lose. "We like to see



GERALD McLEOD

people eat it all. It's great advertising," Porterfield says.

Aware of this gimmick, which the National Restaurant Association called the best promotion of 1983, the seasoned day-tripper might be skeptical of the rest of the menu. With its two-story motel painted to look like an Old West town, a gift shop full of souvenirs, and an arcade, the Big Texan is definitely a tourist attraction for cross-country motorists. But even if they were giving away steaks half the size, the restaurant couldn't have stayed in business for 44 years if the food weren't top-notch.

"We're very serious about putting a good meal on the table," Porterfield says. The steak I tried was tender and juicy and cooked just the way I ordered it. If I hadn't been stuffed after finishing a 12-oz. steak, I would have ordered a second piece of the cheesecake for the road.

The restaurant offers 14 different cuts of steak, plus hamburgers, salads, barbecue, fried chicken, and an array of desserts. For the extra hearty, there are rattlesnake and mountain oysters to try. Porterfield says the restaurant cooks the equivalent of 40,000 cattle a year.

The Big Texan Steak Ranch is at 7700 E. I-40 on the eastern edge of Amarillo. The restaurant serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner 365 days a year from 7am to 10:30pm. The hotel next door includes a Texas-shaped swimming pool and horse boarding. The rooms rent for \$40 to \$65 a night. For more information or reservations, call 800/657-7177 or go to www.bigtexan.com.

703rd in a series. **Day Trips, Vol. 2**, a book of *Day Trips* 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: *Day Trips*, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

BY GERALD E. McLEOD

CHRISTMAS SALE & PHOTO AUCTION offers locally produced lavender products at a discounted price and the last chance to purchase a photo taken by *National Geographic* photographers to benefit Renaissance Alliance School. Sat., Dec. 4, 10am-4pm. Hill Country Lavender, 1672 McKinney Loop, Blanco, 830/833-2294. www.hillcountrylavender.com.

EMILIYANN TREE LIGHTING & TRAIL OF LIGHTS lets visitors wander among the lighted vignette displays at the outdoor theatre. Nightly, through Jan. EmilyAnn Theatre, 1101 RR 2325, Wimberley, 512/847-6969. www.emiliyann.org.

GRUENE MARKET DAYS & CHRISTMAS MARKET welcomes 100 vendors in addition to the 20 specialty shops. Plus, the Oldest Dance Hall in Texas presents Kelly Willis & Bruce Robison (Dec. 10), Jerry Jeff Walker (Dec. 17 & 18), and Gary P. Nunn (Dec. 31). Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, 10am-5pm. Gruene, 830/629-5077. www.gruenehall.com.

FIREHOUSE CHILI served as a fundraiser for firefighters and their vehicles. Sat., Dec. 4, 4-8pm. North of Bastrop on FM 1441 between TX 95 & TX 21, 512/321-2315.

HOLIDAY BY THE TRACKS presents live music, artists' studio tours, holiday shopping specials, locally grown Christmas trees, lighted holiday parade, live nativity, and more. Sat., Dec. 4. Downtown Elgin, 512/281-5724. www.elgin.tx.com.

HOLIDAY WINE TRAIL leads to 16 Hill Country wineries with special events and tastings of their newest releases. Purchase a grapevine wreath at any winery and receive a ticket for an ornament at each. Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, 11-12. Various locations, 830/997-6523 or 888/997-3600. www.texaswinetrail.com.

TEXAS OBSERVER SYMPOSIUM: POLITICS AND THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA is sold out. The day will be full of real "who's whos" talking about how the heck we got into this friggin' mess (and how we're going to get ourselves out of it) in the form of three panels: What Happened? The Press and the Practice of Presidential Politics in 2004 with **Molly Ivins**, **Adam Clymer**, **Ronnie Dugger**, and **Wade Goodwyn**; What Should Have Happened? What the Press and Presidential Campaigns Weren't Talking About with **Jim Hightower**, **Amy Goodman**, **John Judis**, **Lawrence Goodwyn**, and **Matt Rothschild**; and Dazed and Confused: Entertainment Media and Their Impact on Public Understanding of National Politics with **Elizabeth Avellan**, **Richard Linklater**, **Laura Dunn**, and **Paul Stekler**. Also featured will be the premiere of the documentary *Texas Observer* at 50 by Stekler, and a video tribute to the W. Seventh Street stalwart from everybody's favorite sad-sack funnymen, **Jon Stewart**. The *Texas Observer* Symposium Lowering the Bar: The Role of the Media in the 2004 Presidential Election. Sat., Dec. 4, 10am-3:30pm. State Theater, 719 Congress, 472-7134. \$10. www.texasobserver.org/gala_symposium.asp.

SANCTUARY CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, 6:30pm. Free. Covenant Presbyterian Church, 3003 Northland, 454-5231. www.covenant.org.

CHRISTMAS BUFFET & MUSIC BASH Sun., Dec. 5, 7:30-8pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 775-9270. \$5-15 to benefit Network for Young Artists of Austin and Ventana del Soul. www.ventanadeloul.org.

MUSIC ON THE TERRACE Mulled cider, cookies, and live music! Sun., Dec. 5, 2-3pm. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$3.50 (\$2.50, seniors; \$1, students; free, kids). www.umlaufsculpture.org.

GERMAN CHRISTMAS CONCERT Dec. 5, 2:30pm. Saengerunde Hall, 1607 San Jacinto, 249-0263. Free. austin.citysearch.com/E/V/AUSTX/0005/58/01/cs1.html.

TONI & GUY'S HAIR & FASHION SHOW Sun., Dec. 5, 6-9pm. Stephen F. Austin Hotel, 701 Congress, 457-8800. \$20-25 to benefit Alzheimer Association. hotels.austin.interconti.com.

A MADRIGAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sun., Dec. 5, 2pm. Wilshire Genesis Presbyterian Church, 1507 Wilshire, 478-2565. \$5. www.genesispcusa.org/images/map_genesis.gif.

ARTS & MUSIC DONATION DRIVE Join folks from KLBJ radio and the AAMP, with free food from Rudy's BBQ, as they work to corral musical instruments and art supplies for the Austin Children's Shelter. They'll gladly accept monetary contributions, too, all while making merry at Strait Music. Sun., Dec. 5, 1-5pm. 2428 W. Ben White. www.austinamp.org.

DRUG POLICY REFORM Noell Davis, a former outreach coordinator for Drug Policy Reform of Texas and an organizer for Texans for Medical Marijuana, explains how to promote realistic and compassionate alternatives to the war on drugs. Sun., Dec. 5, 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free.

ADVENT VESPERS "Navidad Nuestra," by Ariel Ramirez will be sung by Fredericksburg's Canto. Sun., Dec. 5. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-6757. Free. www.stmartins.org.

OPERATION: SERVING UP SUPPORT is a fundraiser for the Deployed Soldiers and Family Fund. All you need to do is check the Web site for a list of local businesses that have agreed to donate a portion of their sales to the Operation. Then, head on over to the establishment of your choice on Tue., Dec. 7. www.servingupsupport.com.

EAST AUSTIN COMMUNITY PRESERVATION AND REVITALIZATION ZONE PUBLIC HEARING Tue., Dec. 7. Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile, 478-7695.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE TREE In this decidedly unpeaceful time, it's important to gather and hope for violence to end. This nonpolitical and nonsectarian celebration features performance artists, poets, and vocalists. Tue., Dec. 7, 6pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

EAST AUSTIN STORIES Short documentaries by UT students. See Special Screenings for more. Wed., Dec. 8, 6:30pm: *Our Lady of Guadalupe Church*, 1206 E. Ninth. 10pm: *Cafe Mundi*, 1704 E. Fifth.

ECONOMIC FORECAST FOR SMALL BUSINESS Ray Perryman, Jon Hockenjos, and Billy Hamilton give an early-bird outlook on 2005 at this small-business-issues forum. Wed., Dec. 8, 4:30pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 322-5637. \$20 (Chamber members free). www.austinchamber.org.

GLOBALIZE LIBERATION ROADSHOW David Solnit, editor of *Globalize Liberation: How to Uproot the Sytem and Build a Better World*, is joined by local activists and performers to explain New Radicalism and discuss tactics, strategies, and organizing tools. Wed., Dec. 8, 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 100-B E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.globalizeliberation.org.

HOLIDAY SIP & SHOP Wed., Dec. 8, 2-10pm. Oslo, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433. Free.

CAMILLE CLAUDEL BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON Wed., Dec. 8, 11am. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$30.

GREENLIGHTS NONPROFIT SECTOR CONNECTOR "The Next Big Thing: New Trends in Nonprofit

Management," presented by Cookie Ruiz of Ballet Austin and Deborah Edward of Greenlights for Nonprofit Success, among others. Thu., Dec. 9, 8am-noon. Ragsdale Center at St. Edwards, 3001 S. Congress, 477-5955. \$25 (\$20, members). www.greenlights.org/sectorconnector.

ROCK & ROLL GIRLS CAMP BENEFIT See Club Listings for band info. Thu., Dec. 9, 7pm. Ruta Maya Coffee House, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637.

SETON SOUTHWEST AUXILIARY HOLIDAY BAZAAR Come and enjoy food, wine, a raffle, and shopping to benefit the hospital. Thu., Dec. 9, 6:30-9pm. Seton Southwest Hospital, 7900 FM 1826 (Camp Ben McCollough Road), 324-9039. \$15. www.seton.net.

COATS FOR KIDS It's getting cold out there, so bring new or gently used coats to any area Jack Brown Cleaners, KVUE, local schools, and more. Call for exact locations. Through Dec. 8. 467-8982 x231. www.jlaustin.org/coats.

BLANKET DRIVE Donate new blankets so home-bound elderly and disabled people can be a little warmer this winter. Through Dec. 17. *Meals on Wheels and More*, 3227 E. Fifth, 476-6325 x104. www.mealsonwheelsandmore.org.

BROWN SANTA 5K RUN/WALK Brown Santa is a community program that helps bring a holiday meal to families, as well as presents for their kids. See Sports for more. Travis Co. Exposition Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 854-4173. \$10-20. www.brownsanta.org.

MEETINGS & INSTRUCTION

CHARTER SCHOOLS, VOUCHERS, AND SCHOOL CHOICE An education roundtable with Austin

Chamber and IBM Education. Register at the Austin Chamber Web site. *Fri.*, Dec. 3, 7:30-9am. St. Edward's University, Main Building, fourth floor, 3001 S. Congress. \$10-20. www.austinchamber.org.

NATURAL HISTORY OF TEXAS OWLS WORKSHOP E-mail to register. *Fri.-Sat.*, Dec 3-4. Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 929-1000. \$55. fergus@mail.utexas.edu.

THE BODY IN QUESTION are workshops with world-renowned dancer, choreographer, teacher, and writer Deborah Hay. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 10am-6pm. Star Institute, 1426 Toomey, 479-9977. \$125 (10% off second workshop). www.thestarinstitute.com.

ITALIAN COOKING CLASS Call for location. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 6pm. 345-8941. \$45. www.geocities.com/atasteofitalyinaustin.

INNER LIMITS EDUCATION SERIES The first of three discussions sponsored by Congregation Kol Haleb presents Jewish Magic and Folk Religion, with Rabbi Kerry Baker, Congregation Kol Haleb. Call or see Web site for directions. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 5:30-7pm. 249-2960. Donations accepted. www.kolhaleb.org.

HOW TO TALK WITH YOUR ANGELS is a workshop with psychic Kim O'Neill, based on her paperback by the same name, followed by a book-signing. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 2-6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. Free. www.bookpeople.com.

AUSTIN AREA QUILT GUILD MEETING *Mon.*, Dec. 6, 6:45pm. Faith Lutheran Church, 6600 Woodrow, 448-5152. www.aag.org.

MACRAME CLASSES Much ado about knotting! Come learn the basics and produce your own retro creations. *Mon.*, Dec. 6, 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$15. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

TOUR OF MEDITATION PRACTICES Come learn a new approach to relaxation, centering, and meditation. *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 6:15-7pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

TEXAS INMATE FAMILIES ASSOCIATION MEETING *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 7pm. Southside Church of Christ, 1318 S. Congress, 444-4386. Free. www.tifa.org.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB: AN ELECTION RE-CAP with guest speaker Texas Monthly Editor Evan Smith. *Wed.*, Dec. 8, 7-8:30am. UT Club, sixth floor, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15-25. www.mbcaustin.org.

KIDS

THE TOYS TAKE OVER CHRISTMAS is performed by the award-winning Second Youth Family Theatre for the holiday enjoyment of kids ages 3-13. *Fridays*, 7:30pm; *Saturdays*, 10am. *Through Dec. 18.* Austin Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247.

SHARING WITH SANTA Bring a new or gently used unwrapped toy for APD's Operation Blue Santa program to this holiday gathering that focuses on giving rather than getting. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 10am-1pm. Trinity Child Development Center, 5801 Westminster, 928-2212.

STAR-STRUCK HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS Psst! Need a little shopping time without the kids? Send 'em over to the Texas State History Museum where they'll design a starry creation in a special workshop for kids in first through eighth grades. Registration is required. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 9:30-11:30am. Bullock History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4649. \$8 (\$6, members).

SCULPTURE TO BE! HOLIDAY WORKSHOP *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 1:30-3pm. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$7.50.

ONE WORLD DAY IN CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN features "Iron & Silk," presented by the Love of China School of Chinese Dance. *Sun.*, Dec. 5, noon. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., \$16 (\$18, adults).

CHILDREN'S CREATIVE MOVEMENT WORKSHOP Join your child aged 2-5 in a 30-minute movement

class, including a book enactment, activity songs, improvisational dance, and gentle stretch. Parents also receive two free classes at Body Vida. Facilitated by Carla Umlauf-Cheesar and Elissa Shapiro. *Sun.*, Dec. 5, 3:30-5pm. Body Vida Studio, 1115 S. Congress, 447-9900. \$15, family. www.bodyvida.com.

LYNNE CHERRY, author and illustrator of more than 30 award-winning books for children, including *The Great Kapok Tree*, *A River Ran Wild*, and *The Armadillo From Amarillo*, speaks in a program recommended for teachers, librarians, aspiring authors, illustrators, and others. *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 7pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-7400. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

GIRL FIGHT Got jumped in the hall? Some girl been talking smack? Get advice from high school kids (and a trained counselor) on surviving middle school confrontations and keeping friendships strong. *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 4:30-5:30pm. Fulmore Middle School, 201 E. Mary, 414-3207. Free. www.genaustin.org/public.

THE AUSTIN CHILDREN'S NUTCRACKER *Dec. 9-12*, 7:30pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 989-3363. \$17 (\$12, kids ages 3-12; Free, kids ages 2 and younger). www.austin-conservatory-arts.com.

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOPS Reservations required. *Through Dec. 22.* Austin Children's Museum at Dell Discovery Center, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$20-30. www.austinkids.org.

VOLUNTEER CALLS

PROJECT TRANSITIONS needs 30-40 volunteers to help out at Top Drawer Thrift, and 75 for their upcoming Holiday Swing event on *Sat.*, Dec. 4. 454-8646. www.projecttransitions.org.

SAFEPLACE NEEDS YOUR HELP It's no secret that this (among other things) shelter, rape crisis center, and community outreach program is in serious need of some funds. Feel free to head to their Web site and learn more. www.austin-safeplace.org.

THE BIRTHDAY WAGON is a nonprofit that organizes birthday parties for children residing in shelters. They're looking for volunteers to help organize monthly parties for the wee ones. Monetary and in-kind donations are also welcome. www.thebirthdaywagon.org.

CHANGING SPACES This youth art mentoring program is looking for 21 women to join the movement. Come check it out. *Thu.*, Dec. 9, 6:30-9:30pm. 2311-G Thornton. Reservations and info, 585-1919. www.studiocommunities.org.

Looking for more **Volunteer Calls**? See our online listings at austinchronicle.com for more.

The **NCAA Women's Final Four** is this weekend, with all three games televised on ESPN2. It's a semifinal doubleheader on Friday afternoon – UCLA vs. Princeton at 1pm, and Notre Dame vs. Santa Clara at 3:30 – with the championship game at noon on Sunday. This will be the first time in the 23-year history of the sport that North Carolina has missed the Final Four. The **Men's Final Four** follows the next weekend; already eliminated are No. 1 Wake Forest, host UCLA, and Texas' lone entry, SMU.

The **European Champions League** group stage comes to a close on Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 7 and 8, with seven spots in the round of 16 still up for grabs. The ESPN game of the week should be dramatic: Roma will host Real Madrid (ESPN2, *Wed.*, Dec. 8, 1:30pm) in a cavernous, completely deserted Olimpico Stadium – part of a penalty handed down after Roma fans injured the referee at halftime of an earlier match. Roma, already eliminated and suffering through a miserable, scandal-ridden season, nevertheless will relish the chance to take overstuffed Real down with them. An Italian win or even draw would send the Spaniards home in disgrace and put Bayer Leverkusen into the final 16 instead.

You can bet **Landon Donovan** will be watching that game. He'll join Leverkusen in January, after being on loan to the MLS San Jose Earthquakes for the past four years. If the German club does make it into the next round of Champs League play, Donovan will join his pal DaMarcus Beasley, who has played a key role for PSV Eindhoven in the Dutch club's somewhat surprising run into the round of 16.

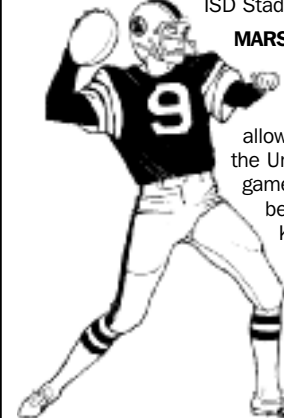
FOX Soccer Channel? Various sources report that Fox Sports World will switch to an all-soccer format early next year. Indeed, they've already trademarked the name. – Nick Barbaro

Friday Night Lights

The weather gets colder and the stakes higher. Six Central Texas teams are still in the state title hunt.

CEDAR PARK VS. LUFKIN: After nosing out Mesquite 31-28, the Timberwolves are two wins away from winning it all. They wouldn't be here without QB Korey Washington, who ran for 191 yards and tossed a 54-yard TD pass; Rupert Edwards added 146 more rushing yards. Big, fast Lufkin, who already sent Pflugerville packing, won't give an inch. (1pm Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium, Waco)

MARSHALL VS. BOERNE: Boerne's defense has stepped it up in the playoffs, allowing just 13 points in the Unicorns' last two games. Marshall has beaten teams from Klein, Beaumont, and Houston to reach this Division I semifinal. (7:30pm Saturday, Waco ISD Stadium, Waco)



CONNALLY VS. GREGORY-PORTLAND: The 4A Division II Region IV final pits the Cougars – who won their 10th straight against Corpus Christi Calallen 20-7 – against Gregory-Portland, who eliminated Alamo Heights 38-20. Gut check for the Cougar defense. (7:30pm Saturday, Farris Stadium, San Antonio)

LIBERTY HILL VS. HALLETTSVILLE: Liberty Hill rode its ground game to a 42-24 win over Devine last week, while the Panthers' defense didn't allow a point in the second half. Hallettsville didn't let Port Isabel score the entire game, advancing 10-0. (2pm Saturday, Round Rock ISD Stadium)

ROGERS VS. LEXINGTON: An all-Central Texas, all-Eagles contest for all the 2A Region IV marbles. Undeclared Rogers won the first round 16-7 earlier this year, but Lexington hasn't lost since, routing Yorktown last week 35-0. Rogers likewise romped, easily defeating Refugio 41-6. (7:30pm Friday, Floyd Casey Stadium, Waco)

– Christopher Gray

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN ICE BATS Join the Ice Bats as the Jackalopes make their only trip to the Bat Cave this season, with free Cheerstix for the first 5,000 fans and a free post-game concert by Kevin Fowler. Vs. Odessa: *Fri.*, Dec. 3, 7:35pm. Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 977-PUCK. \$10-35. www.icebats.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. East Central Oklahoma: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 7:30pm. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Tarleton State University: *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 6pm. Vs. Eastern New Mexico University: *Thu.*, Dec. 9, 6pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Volleyball No. 6 seed Texas hosts the 2004 NCAA Tournament – Austin Sub-Regional. Rice vs. Michigan: *Fri.*, Dec. 3, 5pm. Texas vs. Texas State: *Fri.*, Dec. 3, 7pm. Friday's winners: *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 6:30pm. Gregory Gym. **Swimming** Texas Invitational: *Thu.-Sat.*, Dec. 2-4, all

day. **Men's Basketball** Vs. North Texas: *Tue.*, Dec. 7, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center. www.texassports.com.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON Men's Basketball Vs. Paul Quinn: *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 7:30pm. Vs. St. Edward's: *Mon.*, Dec. 6, 7:30pm. Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook Dr.

AUSTIN OUTLAWS TRYOUTS The Outlaws, members of the National Womens' Football Assoc., will hold tryouts this weekend and the next for their upcoming 2005 season. *Sat.-Sun.*, Dec. 4-5, 10am. Bedichek Middle School, 796-0108. www.austinoutlaws.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

CHAPARRAL ICE Austin's premier rink folks are also offering free first lessons every Saturday for kids ages 6 and older. Also, check out their men's, women's, and youth hockey leagues. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 12:15 & 1pm. Chaparral Ice, 14200 N. I-35, 252-8500. www.chaparralice.com.

RAINBOW ROLLERSKATING is a semimonthly roller-skating event for the gay and lesbian community. A good way to meet new people, have some fun skating, and get a little exercise as well. Every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. *Wed.*, Dec. 8, 8pm. Skate World Northwest, 9514 Anderson Mill Rd., 258-8886. \$6. www.main.org/rainbowskate.

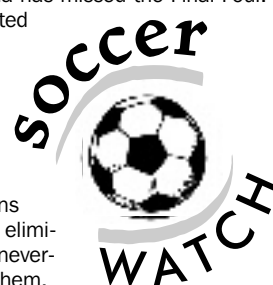
RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

MADD JINGLE BELL 5K RUN MADD hosts this 5K run/walk and Kid's K as a fun way to involve the local community in their effort to end drunk driving and underage drinking. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 8:30am. First & Riverside, 835-8844. www.madd.org/tx/heart.

BROWN SANTA 5K RUN/WALK is offered as a competitive (chip-timed) event as well as a fun-run/walk. Brown Santa is a community program that helps bring a holiday meal to families, as well as some gifts for their kids. See Web site for details. *Sun.*, Dec. 4, 8am. Travis Co. Exposition Center, 7311 Decker Ln., 854-4173. \$10-20. www.brownsanta.org.

THE AUSTIN CYCLING ASSOCIATION has plenty of bicycling activities to offer this bike-loving city. Check their Web site for details. www.austincycling.org/rides.html.

WILD BASIN WILDERNESS has a plethora of available walks, hikes, and more. Check their Web site for details. www.wildbasin.org.



Theatre

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

OPENING

HEMOPHILIACS is the latest in the Rude Mechs’ Second Stage series: a new work, created and directed by Robert Pierson, that explores “the intersection between love and malice, the difference between your heart and how you act in the world, and the fine art of knife sharpening.” More blood, they say, than a Sam Peckinpaw movie. Music by Robert S. Fisher. *Dec. 2-11. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12 (\$10, seniors, students, ACoT; pay what you can, Thursdays & Sundays).* www.rudemechs.com.

LA PASTORELA is subtitled “A Shepherd’s Story,” and of course it’s a sweet and Christmasy tale brimming with angels and devils and such, as prescribed by the holiday season. If this Austin Latino Theatre Alliance show is half as fierce as its Web site (go ahead, give it a visit), it’ll be fun for more than just the kiddies. *Dec. 2-18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., Dec. 5, 3pm. Tillery Street Theater, 701 Tillery, 391-1844. \$10 (pay what you can, Thursdays; free, ages 11 and younger).* www.lapastorela.com.

AUSTIN PLAYHOUSE: A CHRISTMAS CAROL What th’ Dickens? Here come the Scrooges ... this one’s from the Austin Playhouse troupe, adapted by director Don Toner and playwright Ellsworth Schave, featuring an original score by Allen Robertson. Lotsa great talent hoofing and haunting and heart-warming in this fast-paced musical version: Tom Parker, Dirk van Allen, Ben Wolfe, Jacqui Cross, and so many others. *Dec. 2-18. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$22-25 (student/senior/ACoT discounts available).* www.austinplayhouse.com.

ZACH SCOTT’S ROCKIN’ CHRISTMAS PARTY It’s the dozzenth year for this annual Zach tradition of “MoTown in YoTown for the Ho-Ho-Holidays,” directed, as always, by Dave “Hard Workin’” Steakley. Shake, rattle, and roll down Santa Claus Lane with new sights, sounds, and songs sure to provide one helluva jingle-bellin’, snowballin’, booty-shakin’ yuletide extravaganza. *Dec. 2-Jan. 2. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Extra shows: Sun., Dec. 5-19, 7pm. Special New Year’s Eve performance: Fri., Dec. 31, 9pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$25-45.* www.zachscott.com.

AS YOU LIKE IT The Bard’s wild comedy gets an outing by Zach Scott Theatre Center’s new Junior Performance Troupe. Jon Watson directs a fresh cast of Zach teenagers in a lively musical rendition of what happens when royal runaways try to make a go of it in the woods. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 3-11, 8pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale,*



KIRK R. TUCK

Andra Mitrovich, joined by a bevy of beehivers, belts out a number to get your jingle bells jumpin’ in Zach Scott’s *Rockin’ Christmas Party*.

476-0594 x1. \$8 (\$5, students). www.zachscott.com.

UH OH, HERE COMES CHRISTMAS is written by Robert Fulghum, who learned, you may recall, everything he needed to know in kindergarten. This musical, about characters struggling to “find the spirit of the holidays amid the avalanche of commercialism, stress, and chaos,” is presented by the Paradox players under the direction of Paullette McDougal. *Dec. 3-12. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Benefit performances: Sun., Dec. 5, 7:30pm; Wed., Dec. 8, 7:30pm. Extra shows: Sat.-Sun., Dec. 11-12, 3pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. \$10 (\$5, ages 12 and younger).* www.paradoxplayers.org.

SORRY, WRONG CHIMNEY! Yuletide yucks abound out in Leander as the Way Off Broadway Community Players present this Sharkey & Sears screwball comedy about confused identities, jealous partners, and a notorious Santa burglar. Directed by Brent Jenkins. *Dec. 3-18. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Thu., Dec. 16, 8pm. WOBCP Theatre, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander, 512/336-8966. \$10 (\$9, students, seniors).* www.wobcp.org.

A CHRISTMAS STORY Jean Shepherd’s classic about a young kid and his overwhelming desire for a Red Ryder BB gun isn’t just a terrific movie, it’s also a stage play, here parlayed into heartwarming humor by Lockhart’s Baker Theatre folks. *Dec. 3-11. Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm. Baker Theater, 216 S. Main, Lockhart, 512/398-3812. \$8-10.*

A CHRISTMAS CAROL ROASTING ON AN OPEN FIRE Now *this* is different. Mind-boggling in its execution, too, probably, as it’s the creation of Austin’s favorite multiple personality, Rob Nash, who interprets Dickens’ story through impersonations of classic dead movie stars – cross-genderedly, even. Which means, for instance, that “Bette Davis” will play Scrooge, “Joan Crawford” will play Marley’s Ghost, “Humphrey Bogart” will play Belle, “Cary Grant” will play Mrs. Crachit, and so on. Such an ambitious gambit (which also includes W.C. Fields, Clara Bow, the Three Stooges, Ingrid Bergman, and more) would likely result in dull failure, *except that it’s Rob Nash*. We know he’ll work this one-man performative miracle to side-splitting effect, which is why we’re making our reservations early, and why we recommend that you

do the same. *Dec. 3-Jan. 2. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. No performance Christmas Eve. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$5-25. www.vortexrep.org.*

GREETINGS! is Tom Dudzick’s comedy about “a family confronting traditional values and new ideas in the presence of an unknown entity on Christmas Eve,” as presented for your holiday entertainment out in ol’ Bastrop. *Dec. 3-18. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., Dec. 12, 3pm. Bastrop Opera House, Bastrop, 512/321-6283. \$6-10.*

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE The Violet Crown Radio Players stage a fully costumed audio re-creation of the old Lux Radio Theatre adaptation of this Capra classic. *Dec. 3-11. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. \$7. www.violetcrownradio.com.*

STATE THEATER: A CHRISTMAS CAROL is perhaps the most familiar revival of this yuletide classic, as adapted by Neil Bartlett, for all you eggnog-swilling, chestnut-roasting traditionalists out there. *Dec. 3-19. Wed.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 4 & 8pm (no 4pm show on Dec. 4); Sun., 2:30pm. The State Theater, 719 Congress, 472-7134. www.austintheatrealliance.org.*

CHINESE GOLDEN DRAGON ACRO-BATS will be balancing and tumbling and dancing and generally making with moves and costumes that will push your sense of wonder to its quivering brink. Don’t try these stunts at home – you can’t afford the stemware. *Sat., Dec. 4, 3 & 7:30pm. Paramount Theatre, 720 Congress, 469-SHOW. www.austintheatrealliance.org.*

CLOSING

SONATA BLUE is Randy Wyatt’s play, about living with “the Difficult People,” in which two women are set ideologically athwart a man near death after a terrible motor crash. Religious fundamentalism gets a drubbing, old emotional wounds are ripped open, direction is provided by Josie Collier. *Through Dec. 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 826-2132. \$10 (pay what you wish, Thursdays).* www.hydeparktheatre.com.

ONGOING

PAGEANT The drag show to end all drag shows returns to Austin. Who will be the winner in this parody of beauty pageants penned by Bill Russell and Frank Kelly? Will it be Miss Bible Belt? Will it be Miss Industrial Northeast? Will it be Miss Small Town? Or will it be one of the other queenly contestants giving it their all under the direction of Stuart Moulton? You’ll have to be there to find out, because you, the audience, get to vote on who gives best evidence of superlative fabulosity. *Through Dec. 31. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$25. www.naughtyaustin.com.*

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE Forget the money, Uncle Billy, you old fool – forget the TV, too, because now you can catch this Frank Capra heart-cockle-warmer performed live onstage in Georgetown. *Through Dec. 19. Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$15 (\$12, seniors; \$7, ages 18 and younger).* www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.

THE SANTALAND DIARIES Former Flaming Idiot Rob Williams takes over the torch, so to speak, from former elf Martin Burke this year, bringing his own particular shade of wisecrackery to the role of (possibly) the world’s most bitter Macy’s elf, in David Sedaris’ hilarious hit show, directed by – wait for it – Dave Steakley and featuring the dulcet tones of Meredith McCall. With Jason Conner on piano. *Through Jan. 2. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Extra shows: Saturdays, 5pm, through Dec. 18; Sun., Dec. 12 & 19, 7pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-40. www.zachscott.com.*

MY SHOW is your show and viva sweet show, as former Flaming Idiot Rob Williams, currently appearing in Zach

SUBMISSION INFORMATION: The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Submissions are due the Monday the week prior to the issue in which you’d like to see your listing. **The deadline for the Dec. 16, 2004, issue is Monday, Dec. 6, 5pm.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description of the event, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials. All listings are free and printed on a space-available basis. While we strive for comprehensive coverage of Austin-area events, we cannot guarantee publication of any submission. Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to The Austin Chronicle, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

Marc Savlov, film classes, instruction, events. film@austinchronicle.com.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Jacqueline May, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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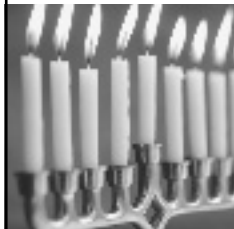
Greetings!

by Tom Dudzick

Featuring
Adam X. Medina
Estee Schwartz
Geoff Pearson
Jane Sledge-Stoub
Paul Standefer



A family comedy for the Christmas,
Chanukah and, even, New Age seasons.



December 3-18

Fridays and Saturdays, 8p

Dinner available 7p - Catered by Bastrop's Deli Depot

Sunday matinee December 12, 3p

Reservations 512/321.6283

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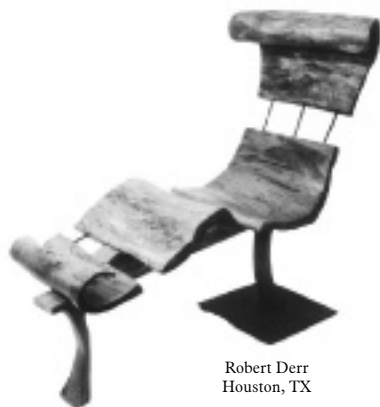
Fifth Annual

Texas Furniture Makers Show

November 26, 2004 - January 2, 2005



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Douglas Garey,
Hunt, TX



Robert Derr
Houston, TX

Reception & Awards
Ceremony

Sat. Dec 4th 6-8pm

Kerr Arts & Cultural Center

228 Earl Garrett St.
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Tues-Sat 10am-4pm
Sun 1-4pm

Free Admission



Dean Storey
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December 2004 - 2, 3, 4 at 8PM - 5 at 2PM
Dougherty Arts Center - 1110 Barton Springs Road
\$10.00 adults - \$6.00 senior citizens and children
Sunday matinee is free for all children
tickets and reservations 474-TIXS
general information 385-2838
mendestein@juno.com www.balleteast.org

Guest choreographers explore the strength, beauty, and freedom of the body and celebrate
the infinite, timeless, radiant soul within

UNBOUND



The Austin Latino Theatre Alliance presents the Christmas classic *La Pastorela* at Tillery Street Theater.

Scott’s *Santaland Diaries*, uses his Monday nights off to host a live variety/talk show of his very own, featuring local comedians, celebrities, politicians, and a few of the local characters who really *do* keep Austin weird. *Mondays, 8pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$10. [www.tendollarmonkey.com](#).*

DINNER THEATRE

THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PASTA is an interactive comedy whodunit, of course, full of solstice shenanigans from your friends, the Capital City Mystery Players. Chow down on tasty sauce-drenched pasta and dessert while these guys spin the story of widowed socialite Mary Astor Turf, whose holiday seance is interrupted by ... *murder!* Will you solve the dastardly crime? *Thursdays, Dec. 2-16, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. [www.meatballs.com](#).*

AUDITIONS

HYPERBOLIC FILMS is holding an open casting call for several short films and a music video. All ages and ethnicities. Call for appt. *Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, noon-5pm. Church of the Friendly Ghost, 209 Pedernales, 371-9317. [hyperbolicfilms@gmail.com](#).*

LOADED GUN THEORY will be holding auditions for their February production of Travis Holmes’ new play *I Am Alpha*. Looking for men and women (ages 18-60). Actors are strongly encouraged to

read the script (available on the LGT Web site). Call for appt. *Sun.-Mon., Dec. 5-6. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 280-2156. [www.loadedguntheory.com](#).*

ONCE UPON A MATTRESS Georgetown’s Palace Theatre is casting this perennially popular show, to be directed by Mary Ellen Butler. Teen Chorus: ages 12-15; bring a prepared song (one minute) with sheet music, CD, or tape; wear loose clothing. *Mon., Dec. 6, 6:30-9pm.* Adult actors: Bring a prepared song (one minute) with sheet music, CD, or tape; wear loose clothing. *Tue.-Wed., Dec. 7-8, 6:30-9pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469.*

THE MAN OF LA MANCHA is no impossible dream, but they’re still seeking men and women for this musical out in Georgetown, to be directed by Cliff Butler, to run in February. They need strong singers, nonsingers, dancers, just about everybody: ages 14 and older. Prepare a song (unless you want a non-singing role). *Sun.-Mon., Dec. 5-6, 7-9:30pm. Sam Bass Theatre, 600 N. Lee, Round Rock, 512/244-0440. [www.sambasstheatre.org](#).*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

THE FEARLESS ACTOR is a five-session course to help you break through your inhibitions and develop as an individual performer and as part of an ensemble. Your instructor: the highly experienced Marshall Ryan Maresca. Call for more information. *Five Saturdays, beginning*

Dec. 4, with a two-week break for the holidays. 296-8941. [maresca@email.com](#).

Offscreen

BY MARC SAVLOV

AUSTIN JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL: TRAILER COMPETITION This third annual festival features – as you might expect, no? – a diverse lineup of narratives and documentaries that celebrate Jewish culture. The festival’s in January and February; the deadline for your entry in their first-ever theatrical trailer competition is: *Dec. 31.* The winning trailer will be shown before every screening at the festival; the winning auteur gets four passes to the fest. The AJFF’s also currently accepting film submissions. Details? Check their Web site for more. [www.austinjff.org/trailer.html](#).

SCREEN IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they’re opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you’ve been thrusting in potential distributors’ mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a Surround Sound system, and supports Super 35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a “break room” suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. *322-0145. [www.austinstudios.org](#).*

Comedy

BY WAYNE ALAN BRENNER

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB *8120 Research, 467-2333. [www.capcitycomedy.com](#).*

Isaac Witty is just like his name: He’s so totally Isaac. But, yeah, he’s pretty damned witty, too, and he’ll brighten your post-turkey days, you betcher giblets. With Kevin Williams. *Through Dec. 5. Thu. & Sun., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Costaki Economopoulos “The biggest name in comedy,” he says, ho ho. We don’t know this guy from Odysseus, see. But check his Web site, you’ll see he’s probably a good bet for your thinking brain and your chuckling gut, whether you’ve got some Greek in your background or not. Who could argue with countless screaming argonauts? *Dec. 7-12. Tue.-Thu & Sun., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. [www.costaki.com](#).*

ESTHER’S POOL *525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. [www.esthersfollies.com](#).*

Esther’s Follies Talk about your political lambasting! President George W. Bush sings and kicks up his heels in Esther’s musical “Side Step Song,” then debates with John Kerry. VP Dick Cheney and John Edwards reality car salesmen to “sell” their new Democrat/Republican models for 2004. The fast-paced “News Medley” brings Olympic news, Lance’s triumphant parade, reality TV travesty, and convention madness in New York and Boston. There’s Teresa Kerry’s answer to the press, Martha Stewart’s trial, and Ricky Williams’ retiring. The newest musical parody stars blondes Paris Hilton, Anna Nicole Smith, Britney Spears, and mob lady Victoria Gotti in the biggest blonde-joke song ever.



Local boy makes good and funny: Matt Sadler hauls in the big laughs at the Velveeta Room this weekend.

And in the world of men, Esther’s classic football sketch is back for the season. *Thursdays, 8pm; Fridays-Saturdays, 8 & 10pm. \$18 (student discounts available Thursdays & Fridays). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATER *617 Congress, 443-3688. [www.heroescomedey.com](#).*

Micetro is where your Heroes of Comedy shine with the improv shenanigans for the audience’s (and their own) pleasure. Who will be the Micetro ... and who will be the Goat? You’ll have fun deciding. *Saturdays, 10:30pm.*

VELVEETA ROOM *521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. [www.thevelveetaroom.com](#).*

Spite Club Championship Who’s the most spiteful comic in this town? This final bout will force the decision: Alan Metoski or Chuck Watkins? Or maybe it’s Summer Brow? Someone’s brow’s gonna be lowered, all right, and a few voices doubtless raised in peals of laughter as a true champion emerges from the fray. *Thu., Dec. 2, 9:30pm.*

Matt Sadler Have we recommended this guy enough already? Puh-leeze, don’t make us get all superlative on your humor-seeking ass, OK? Just, if you’re really wanting to laugh and you’re cool enough to shop local, see Sadler for a hilarious night at the Cheese Palace. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 3-4, 9:30-11:30pm.*

Dance

BY ROBI POLGAR

ACC DANCE DEPARTMENT: FALL CHOREOGRAPHERS’ SHOWCASE A fun and eclectic showcase as students perform their own work under the direction of Austin dance notables **Kathy Dunn Hamrick** and **Allison Orr**; original dances have also been choreographed for the students by **José Bustamante** and **Darla Johnson**. *Fri.-Sat., Dec. 3-4, 8pm. ACC Mainstage Theatre, 1212 Rio Grande, 223-3384. \$6 (\$3, seniors, students).*

BALLET AUSTIN: THE NUTCRACKER Choreographed by BA artistic director Stephen Mills and set to the music of Pyotr Tchaikovsky, with live accompaniment by the Austin Symphony Orchestra, *The Nutcracker* delights children of all ages. One hundred fifty school children

are recruited annually to take part, and don’t forget the star cameos in the Mother Ginger role: this year featuring future governor Kinky Friedman, Amy “The Apprentice” Henry, ASO’s Maestro Peter Bay, Mayor Will Wynn, Kevin Rollins of Dell, chanteuse Shawn Colvin, and Joe Long (who has a thing for turtle-shaped structures, it appears). *Through Dec. 21. Fri.-Sat., Dec. 10-18, 7:30pm; Mon.-Tue., Dec. 20-21, 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., Dec. 5-19, 2pm.* In addition to the 11 public performances, Ballet Austin will host a variety of opportunities for Central Texans to learn more about the ballet, including **Footlights**, a free preshow discussion for ticket holders, where you can learn about the history, choreography, and music of the ballet (one hour and 15 minutes prior to each performance). For younger ballet-goers, there is the **Kids Corps Chat**, a precurtain discussion aimed at the under-12 set, also free to ticket holders (12:45pm, matinees only). **TGIF** Before the Fri., Dec. 10 performance, join BA for a light meal (*\$10 per person; call 476-9151 x166 for reservations*), and mix and mingle with fellow balletomanes before enjoying the Footlights presentation and ballet. *Bass Concert Hall, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 469-SHOW. \$17-75. [www.balletaustin.org](#).*

SARAH BRUMGART/SCHOOL OF INFINITE MOVEMENT: SEVEN VARIATIONS ON A THEME Solo, a capella, structured improvisational dance performed by Brumgart, at once action-packed and meditative, ethereal and earthy. She’s wowed crowds locally, as well as across the country. *Through Dec. 18. Saturdays, 8pm. Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock, 451-8066. \$15 (\$10, seniors, students, DU members).*

BALLET EAST DANCE COMPANY: UNBOUND Choreographers Regina Larkin, director, Joyce Trisler Danscompany (New York); Sharon Marroquin; Eric Midgley; Melissa Villarreal; Ananda Moss; and Leona Dixon join BEDC in this joyful celebration of the human spirit in movement. *Dec. 2-5. Thu-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 474-TIXS. \$10 (\$6, seniors, children). [www.balleteast.org](#).*

IRON & SILK Take a peek through this window into China in this Kids Series program from One World Theatre. You’ll be immersed in Chinese culture with a full sensory experience as five different age groups of dancers perform tradition al Chinese dance and martial art movements ranging from gentle and demure to bold and energetic. Colorful costumes and music evoke the flavors of different times and regions in this vast country. *Sun., Dec. 5, noon. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 32-WORLD. \$18 (\$16, kids). [www.oneworldtheatre.org](#).*

1,001 NIGHTS

Z-HELENE & RICK FINK: FALL INTO THE MYSTERY Austin belly dancers Sonja, Cassandra, Rosemary, Malinka, and the Hip Bellyettes are joined by special guest dance artist Miabella (Fort Worth) and “Thundula,” goddess of Earth, Fire, and Lightning in her first return to our world since 1995. Guitarist Hugh Chandler, flutist Cindy Hawes, and dancer/percussionist Rosemary provide live accompaniment. Refreshments will be available. *Sat., Dec. 4, 8pm. Austin Yoga, 1122 S. Lamar. 927-2580. \$12 (kids free). [www.zhelene.com](#).*

GREEN MUSE CAFE Join Eshta! for spirited belly dancing with live music. All ages, no

cover. Every second Friday, 8-10pm. Green Muse Cafe, 503 E. Oltorf, 912-7789.

ALBORZ PERSIAN CUISINE Also hosting a regular dance night of the *rak sharki* variety, Alborz invites patrons to sup on fine Persian delicacies and stare at talented dancers. Saturdays, 8pm. Alborz Persian Cuisine, 3300 W. Anderson, 420-2222. Free.

EAST MEETS TEXAS Zerehade and her friends perform, and O'Dell Bishop emcees. Plus, you can sample the free Mediterranean delicacies. Saturdays, 7-9:30pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 360-4387 or 474-7091. \$6. www.egoslounge.com.

PYRAMIDS MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT More weekend shimmying in the northern/central part of town. Fridays & Saturdays, 8pm. Pyramids, 6019 N. I-35, 302-9600.

PYRAMID'S CLEOPATRA LOUNGE It's an ongoing Mediterranean night party with the "hottest" belly dancers around, including Elena Klara and Melissa Amira, and added Arabic ambience – both musical and other (sheesha anyone?). Fridays & Saturdays, 10pm. The Pyramids, 709 E. Sixth, 494-8400. \$5.

TWO LEFT FEET

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD invites you to this standing weekly

dance. Latin, swing, and other dance music in a non-smoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, and all ages welcome. Saturdays, 8pm. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students). www.austinballroomdancers.org.

OPEN IMPROVISATION COOPERATIVE Interested in exploring improvisational movement? This group offers guided improv, group improv, and contact improv instruction – everything you do is part of the dance, including breathing, sitting, even watching! Musicians welcome. Through Dec. 19. Sundays, 7-8:30pm. Center for Contemporary Dance and Movement Arts, 304 E. Fifth, 443-2327. Donations welcome. sheenaqueena@yahoo.com.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: HOLIDAY SHOWCASE AND DANCE The evening includes a mini dance lesson, dancing to DJ music, and concludes with demonstrations by some of DI's youth and adult dancers. Sat., Dec. 4, 7-9pm. The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 323-2623. \$10 (\$7, UT students, youth). www.dancein.org.

DECEMBER TANGO CLASSES Intermediate Argentine Tango Series: Mondays, Dec. 6 & 13, 7:30-9:30pm. Introduction to Argentine Tango: Tuesdays, Dec. 7 & 14, 7-9pm. Both series at Footworks Dance Center, 7010 Hwy. 71 W., #120. 288-9577. \$35 per person (\$5 off partner or family member) per series; additional series \$30 each. Pre-registration required. www.footworksdance.com.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. Wednesdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Beginners welcome; no partner needed. Frequent live music.

Here comes the 42nd annual Ballet Austin production of Tchaikovsky's *The Nutcracker*, with its new slate of surprise guests as Mother Ginger.



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Saturdays, 7:30pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-7765. \$3. www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Listen and groove to great Celtic music at this weekly social dance. Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free.* www.austinscd.org.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE WEEKLY DANCE This is one (Lindy) hoppin' regular event, as a couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. Admission includes a beginner's lesson at the start of the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members).* www.austinswingsyndicate.org.

MORE ON THE FLOOR Think there's more going on here than meets the feet? Phone the danceline to see what can set your body in motion: presentations, workshops, master classes, and more. 416-5700 x3262. Or check out the Movin' Easy calendar online. www.moveineasy.com.



The 10 singers of Cantus bring a fierce glory to a capella vocalizing in their holiday concert at Hogg Auditorium.

Classical Music

BY ROBI POLGAR

AUSTIN SINGERS: A BAROQUE CHRISTMAS BEYOND BACH welcomes the holiday season with works by Pergolesi, Victoria, Palestrina, and Sweelinck, as well as selected arrangements of Christmas carols from the Renaissance and Baroque periods. *Thu.-Fri., Dec., 2-3, 7:30pm. Central Christian Church, 1110 Guadalupe, 314-5532. \$15 (\$10, seniors, students; \$12, in advance).* www.austinsingers.org.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT NOON Choirs representing downtown churches, plus a few guest soloists, invite you to this series of noontime choral concerts. *Thursdays, 12:05pm. Through Dec. 23. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 472-1196. Free.* www.stdave.org.

ST. CECILIA MUSIC SERIES: BAROQUE FESTIVAL Three concerts in three days highlight the Baroque in music and voice. **Concert I** The First Presbyterian Church Chorale, orchestra, and soloists directed by James A. Brown perform works by Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704), including his *Te Deum* and Christmas music, to mark the composer's 300th anniversary year. *Fri., Dec. 3, 8pm. \$10. Concert II* Music of Charpentier and others, performed by Festival Orchestra principals and soloists including baroque violinist Laurie Stevens, soprano Kathlene Ritch Brown, and Keith Womer, harpsichord/organ. *Sat., Dec. 4, 8pm. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students).* **Baroque Festival Church Service** Handel's *Messiah, Part I (Christmas)*, performed by the Redeemer Presbyterian Church Chorus, orchestra, and soloists, directed by George Dupere. *Sun., Dec. 5, 6pm. Free. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 345-8866 x43.*

CAREGIVERS CHRISTMAS CHORAL BENEFIT Sixteen churches (300 singers!) are participating in this early-in-the-season festival of carols. *Fri., Dec. 3, 7:30pm. St. Albert's Catholic Church, 12041 Bittern Hollow. 302-5980.*

AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY: JEREMY JOUVÉ Last year's winner of the Guitar Foundation of America Competition arrives in Austin for a concert sure to thrill

classical guitar enthusiasts. The latest rising star to win the GFA competition, Frenchman Jouv  performs works ranging from the Renaissance through the 20th century. *Sat., Dec. 4, 8pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 899-1118. \$15 (\$10 seniors, students; \$20 preferred seating; free, ACGS members).* www.austinclassicalguitar.org.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL-INSTITUTE: AMAHL AND THE NIGHT VISITORS The ensemble cast of Opera Texas, including members of the Austin Lyric and Santa Fe opera companies and the renowned choral group Conspirare, will join Austin radio personality Cactus Pryor to present a fully staged production of Gian Carlo Menotti's perennial holiday favorite. *Sat., Dec. 4, 3pm. Festival Concert Hall, State Highway 237 at Jaster Road, Round Top. 979/249-3129. \$15 (\$5, students, children).* www.festivalhill.org.

CANTUS: HOLIDAY CONCERT One of America's finest vocal ensembles, the 10-voiced Cantus performs a repertoire spanning periods and styles, from Gregorian chant to contemporary pop. *Sun., Dec. 5, 7pm. Hogg Auditorium, West 24th & Whitis, 477-6060. \$20-28.* www.utpac.org.

A. MOZART FEST: RUSSIAN OVATIONS Pianists Desiree Bakke and Saida Ganjetsian Karfarova perform music for two pianos, including Nikolai Medtner's *Russian Round Dance (Khorovod)*, Op. 58, No. 1 and Rachmaninoff's *Russian Rhapsody and Suite for Two Pianos*, Op. 17. *Sun., Dec. 5, 4:30pm. First Universalist Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover, 866/468-7621. \$25 (\$15, students, \$35, preferred; \$5, Long Center Passport Program).* www.amozartfest.org.

BRYN GWLAD MUSIC GUILD & FRIENDS: A MADRIGAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT Costumed musicians sing and play holiday music from the 15th-17th centuries. If you have a period costume, you're invited to wear it to help enhance the experience. Desserts and beverages will be served. Call for reservations. *Sun., Dec. 5, 2pm. Fellowship Hall, Genesis Presbyterian Church, 1507 Wilshire, 478-2565. \$5.* www.genesispcusa.org.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: MESSIAH This Austin tradition brings the symphony together with Chorus Austin for a rousing version of Handel's classic. Peter Bay conducts. *Tue., Dec. 7, 8pm. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. \$10-25.* www.austinsymphony.org.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC ACADEMY: SPRING SEMESTER AUDITIONS Whether you're a beginning orchestra student looking to "make friends making music" or a high tech professional looking to dust off the old trumpet, there is a place for you at the Austin Chamber Music Academy. Places available for children and adults. *Sun., Dec. 12, by appointment. Ascension Lutheran Church, 6420 Hart. 454-7562.* www.austinchambermusic.org.

Litera

BY RIC WILLIAMS

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

JOY WILLIAMS, visiting professor of fiction at the Michener Center this fall, reads from her works. She is the author of the novels *State of Grace*, *The Changeling*, *Breaking and Entering*, and *The Quick and the Dead*; the short story collections *Taking Care*, *Escapes*, and just out this fall, *Honored Guest*; and the collected essays *Ill Nature*. Highly recommended. *Thu., Dec. 2, 7:30pm. ACES 2.302, Avaya Auditorium, 24th & Speedway, UT campus.*

CYRUS CASSELLS reads from his latest book of poetry, *More Than Peace & Cypressess*. *Thu., Dec. 2, 3:30pm. Southwest Writers Collection, Alkek Library, TSU-San Marcos. 512/245-2313. Free.* www.swwc.txstate.edu.

KATHY BORICH dishes up tales of murder and serves tasty treats as she signs copies of her *Appetite for Murder: A*

Mystery Lover's Cookbook. *Thu., Dec. 2, 4-7pm. The Dog & Duck Pub, 406 W. 17th, 479-0598.*

DR. L. MICHAEL WHITE, 2004 *Austin Chronicle* award winner for Best Public Lecture Series and UT professor of Classics and Christian Origins, is honored with a booksigning, reading, and tea party. *Sat., Dec. 4, 2-4pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh.*

IN-STORE BOOKFAIR FUNDRAISERS Local nonprofit organizations raise money from friends' and family's purchases of books, CDs, videos, and more at Barnes & Noble Westlake. Wild Basin Wilderness and the Writers' League of Texas are helped on *Sat., Dec. 4, all day. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

TURK PIPKIN reads from his latest, *The Old Man and the Tee*. *Sat., Dec. 4, 2pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

MIGUEL GONZ LEZ-GERTH reads from his poetry in Spanish and English. *Mon., Dec. 6, 3:30pm. Alkek Library, Seventh Floor, TSU-San Marcos, 512/245-2313.*

JOEL OSTEEN, pastor of the largest church in America, signs copies of his *Your Best Life Now*. A *Publishers Weekly* review called it an "overblown and redundant self-help debut" espousing a "shallow name-it-and-claim-it theology." Just so you know. *Mon., Dec. 6, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

UTTER READINGS Getcher red-hot author readings right here! James "Kings of Infinite Space" Hynes, Zoya "Thresholds" Marincheva, and Dao "Grass Roof Tin Roof" Strom will cut loose with renditions of their own works. *Mon., Dec. 6, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* www.bookpeople.com.

BARBARA BASH discusses her *True Nature: An Illustrated Journal of Four Seasons in Solitude*. She will paint images from her journal simultaneously as she reads, bringing everyone along on this universal journey through the inner and outer landscape. RSVP. *Tue., Dec. 7, 7:30pm. The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 258-7243. Free.* www.omegacrossings.com.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE TREE The Austin Public Library hosts this fourth annual celebration, coordinated by neighborhood advocate Laura Riddell. The program is nonpolitical and nonsectarian. It's an opportunity for people to come together to share personal experiences of peace. Performance artists, poets, and vocalists are featured, and everyone attending is invited to hang one "Peace" ornament on the tree as they enter the library. *Tue., Dec. 7, 6pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. Free.* www.cityofaustin.org/library.

PEGGY GROCE discusses her *Love and Lemon Pie*, a collection of recipes and inspirational tales. *Wed., Dec. 8, 7pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

GARY SOTO'S *Too Many Tamales!* *Que Monton de Tamales!* will be performed in Spanish by adults and youth at the Christmas Fiesta. In addition, an Austin History Center exhibit entitled, "Las Tamaladas de Austin," will be on display, featuring folks from the Conley/Guerrero Senior Activity Center and the Lorraine Camacho Center making tamales. The first 40 participants get a free photo with Santa. *Wed., Dec. 8, 6:30pm. Cepeda Public Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley, 974-7372. Free.* www.cityofaustin.org/library.

KYAN DOUGLAS, the *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy* grooming guy, discusses his *Beautified*. *Thu., Dec. 9, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* www.bookpeople.com.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THE BALCONES POETRY PRIZE This award of \$1,000 recognizes an outstanding book of poetry published during a given year. Books of poetry in English of 42 pages or more may be submitted by author or publisher; send three copies; books must bear a publication date between Jan. 1, 2004, and Dec. 31, 2004. Reading fee: \$20, checks payable to Austin Community College. Address: John Herndon, Balcones Center for Creative Writing, Austin Community College, 1212 Rio Grande, Austin, Texas 78701. Deadline: Jan. 31, 2005. 223-3376. www.austincc.edu/crw/balcones_prize.htm.

OPEN MICS

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091.* www.austinslam.com.

HIDEOUT MIC Mondays, 7-10pm. *The Hideout Coffeehouse, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 or canned food for Poets' Pantry.* www.thehideout.org.

MOJO'S FIRST FRIDAYS Featured poets for the first hour, then open mic hosted by Jim O'Hair and Frances Badgett. *Fri., Dec. 3, 8-10pm. Mojo's Daily Grind, 2714 Guadalupe, 477-6656.* www.mojosdailygrind.com.

POETRY KARAOKE The Poetry Karaoke Orchestra will back your poetry on the porch, all kicked off by your host, Ivanho. Bring canned foods for the Poets' Pantry. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya HQ, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* www.rutamaya.net.

NEO-SOUL LOUNGE is hosted by Love Robinson. Doors open at 7:30pm with the hottest sounds of Neo-Soul. *Wednesdays, 9pm. Sahara Nightclub, 900 E. Braker #170, 228-1940.*

STARS POETRY is hosted by George Leake. Weekly featured readers include Steve Pressler and Paula Mendoza-Hanna. *Saturdays, 7pm. Stars Coffee, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334. Free.*

WORLD BEAT CAFE Poetry round table is hosted by Kathleen Romana. *Wednesdays, 7-9pm. WorldBeat Cafe, 600 W. MLK, 236-0197.*

WRITING/OFF BOOK GROUPS

THE WINDSOR PARK WRITERS' CIRCLE offers writers support and encouragement through group discussions and spontaneous writing in an informal, safe, and confidential environment. The first and third Saturday of the month. *Sat., Dec. 4, 2-4pm. Windsor Park branch library, 5833 Westminster, 928-0333.* wpcinfo@yahoo.com.

POETRY IN THE ARTS has its Christmas Party featuring environmental poet and activist John Herndon. Guests are invited to read their holiday poems. *Sat., Dec. 4, 2pm. The home of Charles and Barbara Johanson, 1101 Gaston, 453-7920 or 826-8193.*

WRITING ACROSS TEXAS, a 30-minute television program from the Writers' League of Texas, features Evelyn Palfrey. *Mon.*, Dec. 6, at 6:30pm. Cable Channel 10.

REAL-2-REEL BOOK GROUP Read books that have been made into movies and discuss similarities, differences, what worked better in the book or better in the movie. This week they'll discuss Elmore Leonard's *Get Shorty*. *Wed.*, Dec. 8, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *is she – or if i held her (how i hold as if holding would not become a letting go as if i did not believe in turning in the either or proposition of one means two & two means a leaving of one but the break is a tension unbearable if you hold too hard to such a child's toy as the logic of logic the hopeless resolve to be something other than what you are where you are – reaching) mystery pouring from this mystery into a mystery how naming &*

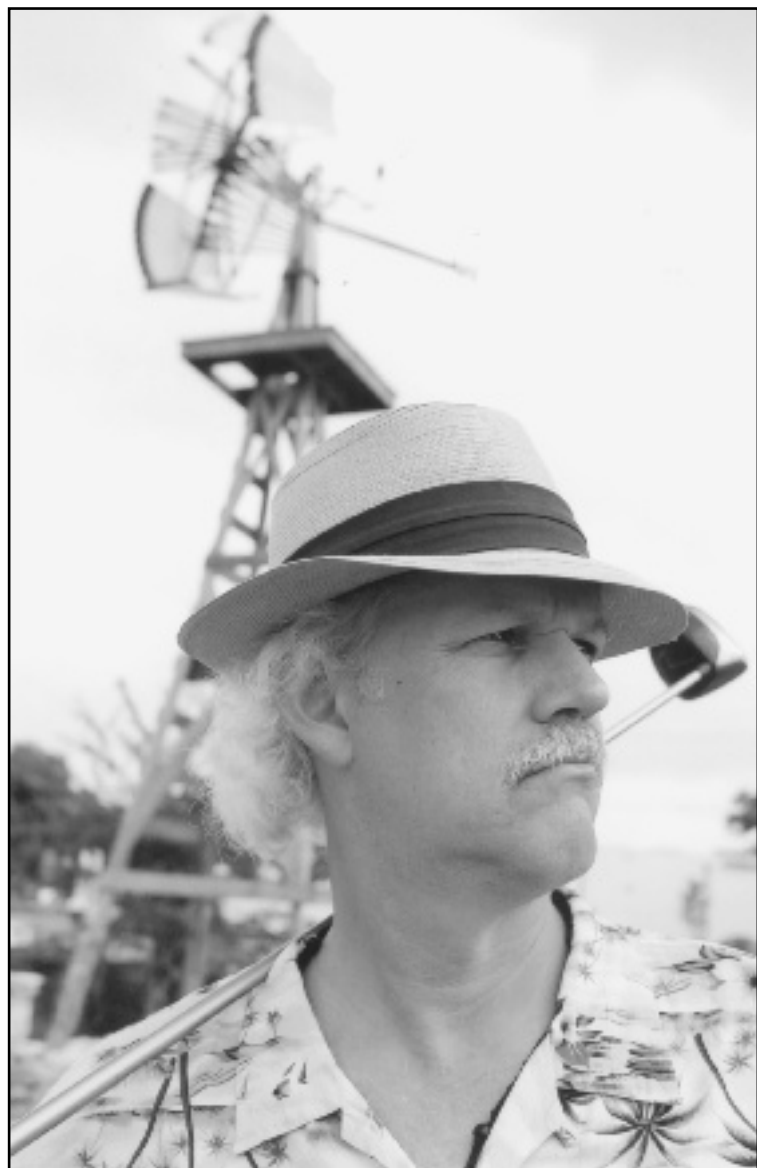
turning & bearing the desperate play of dance & denial or love unanswered of a man in love with an impossible woman is the love of a self for a life that cannot will not be what you want it to be that will dance & drink & engage on a public scale (simply keep moving) & will not be your private (eternal) lover – is she or if you slid a little ... how the dream is not a woman held ...
Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

& only the dogs
howled & your tears
in one sacred surrender
were where the world began
its train already full of ghosts
but when you breathed – a far shore
like a promise you cupped inside your stars

– Rex Rains, from “trance 112604”

Turk Pipkin tees off with his new book of golfing exploits at Barnes & Noble on Saturday.



BRET BROOKSHIRE

Visual Arts

BY JACQUELINE MAY

EVENTS

ART IN THE BARN SALE What do you get when you cross an art gallery and a petting zoo? Kathleen Claps installs her colorful paintings, collages, and small constructions in her barn. Curious miniature goats nibble your buttons as you enjoy homemade cookies, hot cider, and, if the weather is right, a campfire and roasted marshmallows. Take Highway 290 W, 2.2 miles west of the RR 12 intersection. Turn right on Bell Springs Road and follow the signs to 169 Russell Ln. *Sat.-Sun.*, Dec. 4-5, 11am-7pm. 894-7334. k_claps@yahoo.com.

LOUNGING WITH DIGITAL PERFORMANCE ART Arthouse is hosting the fourth in a performance series by the Austin Museum of Digital Art. Digital works by experimental, visual-art-allied musicians are here to be enjoyed in abundance. What better excuse do you need to go check out the “Lounge!” show? *Sun.*, Dec. 5, 8-10pm. 700 Congress, 453-5312. \$10 (\$8, members). www.arthousetexas.org.

FLATBED PRESS HOLIDAY SALE Original lithographs, etchings, and woodcuts by local and national artists make affordable works to collect and give. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 1-6pm. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. www.flatbedpress.com.

PATTI MORA STUDIO SALE has lots of goodies for you, including photography, paintings, jewelry, and knitted items. A portion of sales to benefit Austin Siamese Rescue and Animal Trustees of Austin. *Sat.*, Dec. 4, noon-8pm. 4501 Red River, 658-4332.

THORNTON ROAD STUDIO SALE The 12th annual studio sale at Thornton Road is here. This cool little warehouse complex is inhabited by all manner of creative folks with diverse handmade crafts for your holiday browsing. *Dec. 3-4. Fri.*, 5-9pm; *Sat.*, 9am-2pm. 2311 Thorton Rd., 443-1611.

OPENING

THE ESCAPIST BOOKSTORE presents full-color carnival photographs just the way they should be photographed (www.thefunmachinephotography.com) and a blotter paper art collection called “Tripatorium,” flown in from Chicago and featuring images by Alex Gray, the Melvins, Frank Kozik, and other artists of the underground. Circus acts and other inspirational happenings for the opening! Reception: *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 7-10pm. Exhibit: *Through Dec. 31.* 2209 S. First Ste. D, 912-1777.

BASS CONCERT HALL is hosting a display by the Creative Arts Society of Austin. *Through Jan. 3.* 301-6966. UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1444. www.creativeartsociety.org.

F8 FINE ART GALLERY “The Fourth Season” brings together the introspective paintings of Ray Donley, the organic abstracts of Michael Kessler, Judith Vejvoda’s spiritual photography, and the energy of Piercarlo Abate’s “Carnivale” photos. Reception: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 6-8pm. Exhibit: *Through Dec. 24.* 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.

STUDIO 107 presents “Holiday Punch,” and, wow, with names like these, the

punch is going to knock you out. Bennie Flores Ansel, Derek Boshier, Brian Bowers, Candace Briceno, Minh Carrico, Heyd Fontenot, Clair Gaston, Leona-Scull Hons, Elizabeth Joblin, Young-Min Kang, Rachel Koper, Shea Little, Andrew Long, Jamie Pettit, Joseph Phillips, Mel Sotos, Amanda Stahl, and Jana Swec. Reception: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 6-9pm. Exhibit: *Through Dec. 31.* 411 Brazos #107, 477-9092. www.studio107.com.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK features a solo exhibit of recent work by Dallas artist Ann Glazer. The artist installs hundreds of drawings and cut-out black paper images on walls and tables to create a unique assemblage in which the gallery becomes a drawing, a huge puzzle to be solved. Reception: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 6-9pm (to coincide with a special tax-free party in the gift shop). Exhibit: *Through Dec. 23.* 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

ARTWORKS has a special “Artworks Antique Print Show” featuring the bird prints of John Gould along with many other vintage prints and re-strikes. *Through Dec. 4.* 1214 W. Sixth #105, 472-1550. www.artworksaustrin.com.

GALLERY LOMBARDI Coming right up is “Xmas Expo.” Bearing a more than passing resemblance to Noah’s ark, the show features roughly two of every medium, and zillions of artists of every stripe, with art ranging from fridge magnets to masterpieces. With all this, you’re bound to find something for the stocking! Reception: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 7-10pm. Exhibit: *Through Jan. 6.* Closed: *Dec. 23-Jan. 1.* 910 W. Third, 481-1088.

LOTUS GALLERY is now showing “Christina Pickard: Recent Works,” a display of colorful and textured abstract paintings. Reception: *Thu.*, Dec. 2, 6-8pm. 1201-B W. Sixth, 474-1700. www.lotusasianart.com.

LA PEÑA has “The Goddess of America, Jefitas de los Barrios: Manifestations of the Virgen de Guadalupe,” a photography exhibit by Douglas Rhodenbaugh. *Dec. 4-Jan. 10.* A few doors down at Las Manitas, La Peña is presenting the “Rug Hooking Project,” an exhibit that features the rugs of the women of Agustín González in the Central Mexican Highlands. *Through Dec. 31.* Both receptions: *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 6-8pm. 227 Congress #100, 236-0610.

BUTRIDGE GALLERY is hosting the National Arts Program, a visual arts exhibit and award program for City of Austin employees, their family members, and retired city employees. Reception: *Mon.*, Dec. 13, 6-8pm. Exhibit: *Dec. 4-29.* 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468.

CLOSING

CAMP FIG presents “My Texas Gills Are Burning,” featuring artwork by Michael Burnett, Dan and Bean Gilsdorf, Adam Young, and an Uninvited Guest. *Through Dec. 4.* 305-B E. Fifth, 698-0327.

ONGOING

THE RUSSELL COLLECTION “A Modern Montage: The Photographs of Brian Hamill.” *The Arboretum #130*, 342-0747. www.russell-collection.com.

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

2040 GALLERY Mo Scollan – well-known for her fabulous taste in art – has her own new solo show going on. *Through Dec. 24.* 2040 S. Lamar, 912-0902. www.2040gallery.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru: paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

ARTHOUSE presents “Lounge!” This show features a temporary, multipurpose lounge designed by NY-based artist Matthew Geller. *Through Jan. 16.* 700 Congress, 453-5312.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

BETH MCELHANEY GALLERY New works of original handmade beaded jewelry by Beth McElhaney, created from freshwater pearls, contemporary glass, semi-precious stones, vintage glass, and sterling beads. 1705 Guadalupe, 477-5355.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Featuring unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.

BOB BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM The history museum is now collaborating with the Blanton to present “Go West: Selections From the Jack S. Blanton Museum of Art, C.R. Smith Collection,” a display of more than 50 artworks showing how the events, landscapes, and people of the new frontier captured the imagination of such artists as Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Moran, Charles Russell, Henry Farny, and Maynard Dixon. *Through Jan. 9.* 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.storyoftexas.com.

CALZADILLA STUDIO GALLERY is now open for viewing by appointment, featuring the colorful works of, yes, Rick Calzadilla. 801 W. 17th, 567-3361.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591.

CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY At this University-oriented venue, “Return to the Mothership” has alumni artists returning from all over the galaxy. *Through Jan. 15.* 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.

D. BERMAN GALLERY ushers in winter with a jewel-like exhibit of small works by Jill Bedgood, Virginia Fleck, Daphane Park, Denny McCoy, Naomi Schlinke, Polly Lanning Sparrow, Sean Perry, Robert Ziebell, and Owen McAuley. Gallery Talk: *Sat.*, Dec. 4, 1pm. Exhibit: *Through Dec. 23.* 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.

DIAZ GALLERY presents “Autumn Expressions,” sculptures by A. Ebbesen Davis and paintings by Christopher Fitzgerald. Closing Reception: *Friday, Jan. 28,* 7-10pm. Exhibit: *Through Jan. 31.* 3507 S. First, 444-0013. www.diazgallery.com.

DIBONA STUDIO Here’s a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a recently completed sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

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FRANÇOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY
presents the photographic work of Kim François. *309-B Bowie, 320-0072.*

GALLERY 106 showcases seven works from “Portable Worlds,” the newest series by acclaimed Cuban photographer Eduardo Muñoz Ordoqui, and some never-before-seen works from the series “Low Tide.” *Through February. 2832 E. MLK, 472-1219. www.medaid.org/art.*

GALLERY SHOAL CREEK has “Contrasting Views,” in which representational painter Jerry Ruthven and contemporary peer Tony Saladino present their varied interpretations of the native landscape. *Through Dec. 18, Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun.-Mon. by appt. 1500 W. 34th, 454-6671. www.galleryshoalcreek.com.*

THE GALLERY AT GUADALUPE ARTS
The annual “Tenants Show,” with more

than 35 artists from this unique community, will feature a diversity of techniques and styles. Reception: *Thu., Dec. 2, 6-8pm. Exhibit: Through Dec. 18. 1705 Guadalupe, 473-3775. www.guadalupearts.com.*

HARRY RANSOM CENTER The Mexican artist Miguel Covarrubias, now featured in “Miguel Covarrubias: A Certain Clairvoyance,” is recognized as a key participant in the cultural exchange between Mexico and the U.S. after World War I. The exhibition focuses on caricatures, paintings, and book illustrations from the Nickolas Muray Collection of Mexican Art. *Through April 24. The exhibition “Walker Evans and James Agee: Let Us Now Praise Famous Men” is also on display. Through Dec. 12. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.lib.utexas.edu/lib/hrc/hrhrc.*

IDEA GALLERY Just in time for the East Austin Studio Tour, artists Benné Rockett and Jacqueline May (your Visual Arts listings editor) will be showing their encaustic series and revealing some brand-new works in concrete. They’re joined by abstract painter Nathan Hamilton. “Cover”

features artworks that conceal and reveal complex layers. Closing Reception: *Dec. 18, 7-9pm. Exhibit: Through Dec. 18. 701 Tillery, 472-3349. www.idea-art.org.*

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART Several new things are now on display. “Twister: Moving Through Color, 1965-1977”: This exhibition features vibrant, colorful paintings from the Blanton’s American and Latin American collections. “500 Years of Prints and Drawings”: The final installment of this exhibition series includes 16th-century reproductions of ancient sculpture, interpretations of masterpieces by the great Renaissance painter Titian, the debut of the Blanton’s collection of the early modern lithographs of Theodore Gericault, and contemporary artist William Kentridge’s suite of three sheets of handmade paper. Also, in “The Blanton Builds: A Look at Your New Museum,” we’ll get to see an architectural preview of the new museum complex and plaza currently under construction on the corner of MLK and Congress. Also on display is “Roz,” a compelling short video by Burt Barr, as part of Cinematexas’ ninth

international film festival. *Through Dec. 31. 2300 San Jacinto, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features original works by native Texan Kathy Womack. *411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.*

LINDA RUSSELL FINE ART GALLERY is a new space dedicated to a variety of visual art, including wildlife and domestic animal artwork by some of the city’s most talented artists. *Through Dec. 31. 2915 Medical Arts, 293-1263. www.lindarussell.net.*

MITCHIE’S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. *6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA is astounding us yet again, with further displays of odd artifacts, including – but not limited to – cat X-rays, a double-bodied duckling, removed tonsils, a Victorian pygmy kangaroo, and several sets of wisdom teeth. Welcome to the “Skin and Bones” show. *Tours by appt. 3405-A Cedar, 533-9906. www.mnae.org.*

AC PICK Portable Worlds

VISUAL ARTS REVIEW

Gallery 106, a space within Flatbed World Headquarters dedicated to showing contemporary Cuban art, is currently presenting black-and-white photography by Eduardo Muñoz Ordoqui. In the artist’s series, “Sabina’s Letters,” part of “Portable Worlds,” he has composed images in which video correspondence sent to him by his sister is projected onto everyday objects from the artist’s U.S. environment. This is then manipulated by the use of multiple exposures. The effort to create a connection with a distant, beloved person through art results in a series of quiet, poetic images. For example, one untitled picture is of a happy child held by an older man, presumably his father. This loving image is projected onto the side of a stack of books, as if to suggest that their

lives are recorded therein. A wistfulness and sense of distance is present throughout the show, and in some photographs, it seems as if the artist feels his immediate surroundings are less real and vital than the images sent to him from afar. An untitled work features a video landscape turned upside down and projected onto a series of file folders. This piece contrasts the freedom of movement in a landscape with bureaucracy. The theme of writing and paperwork is continued in another work, in which blended and fragmented family images are projected onto a partially open spiral notebook. It appears to be a visual pun on letter-writing in the form of video correspondence.

– Jacqueline May



Gallery 106, through Feb. 20

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NORTH HILLS GALLERY is having its annual juried "Advent Show." Reception: Sun., Dec. 5, 12:15-1:30pm. Exhibit: Through Dec. 27. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.

OSWALD GALLERY Photographer Ken Rosenthal explores the nature of memory and the imagery of the past throughout "Seen and Not Seen," a series of abstract black-and-white photos that are profound in their simplicity. Through Jan. 8. 714 Congress #200, 494-9440.

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogecko.com.

ROADHOUSE RELICS This is a vintage-neon gallery and studio located in the heart of Austin's art district. Artist Todd Sanders creates vintage-style neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

ROBERT ELLIS PATTERSON ART GALLERY Patterson, former owner of Austin Modern Art Gallery, has created a space to exhibit his work and the work of other spirited Austin artists. 3520 S. Lamar, 731-0945.

OUTLAW PRINTMAKERS Some of the world's most talented printmakers – among them: Randy Bolton, Sue Coe, Tom Huck, David Sandlin – have their work displayed at the fierce printshop gallery called Slugfest. We can't recommend this show highly enough – it's almost like an especially fine issue of Fantagraphics's *Blab* is being previewed on the shop's familiar walls. Through Dec. 31. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204.

STEPHEN L. CLARK GALLERY "Keith Carter: New Work" is the latest in this photography-oriented venue. Through December. 1101 W. Sixth, 477-0828.

STUDIO2GALLERY The venerable Polaroid format provides boundless opportunities to push the limits of photography, explored here in "A Passion for Polaroid." Artists include: Christie Carr, Kim Francois, Erika Kjolrie, Brian S. Morrison, Dundee Murray, Daniel Perlaky, Kathy Van Torme, and Tina Weitz. Through Dec. 23. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 448-2622. www.studio2gallery.com.

SPACES

The Space Don't you now your gay apparel and head over to the Space, that new and thoroughly off-the-beaten-gallery-track visual arts venue, for their fourth show: "Flannel & Glitter: Fabulous Art for Fabulous People." This exhibit features artwork by gay artists from Texas and California, including Lee Vanderpool, Randy 'Biscuit' Turner, Gery Henderson,

Gardiner Rhoderick, Paige Dearman, Kevin Parks Hauser, Ron Rendon, Phillip Avila, Ben Aqua, Jill Emery, and Heyd Fontenot. Reception: Fri., Dec. 3, 7pm-12mid, to coincide with an issue release party for Shout Texas magazine. Exhibit: Dec. 3-30.

The Hideout Visitors to this fine establishment will be privileged to view the utterly superlative paintings of David Leonard. Through Dec. 31. 617 Congress, 476-0473.

La Tazza Fresca is showing "art by derek." Reception: Fri., Dec. 3, 7pm. Through December 31. 519 W. 37th, 453-0403.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

IMAGINE ART CALL FOR ENTRIES This annual juried show is an exhibition opportunity for artists living with disabilities. This year's theme is "Good for the Soul." Application deadline: Dec. 12. Further information: 448-1840, or imagineartaustin@yahoo.com.

TEXAS BIENNIAL CALL FOR ENTRIES This statewide juried exhibit, opening in March 2005, aims to feature a broad scope of contemporary work created throughout Texas. Check their Web site for entry forms and more. Deadline: Dec. 31. www.texasbiennial.com.

TAG ART PROJECT This collaborative project between local female artists and incarcerated women in Lockhart features miniature explorations of fashion, inside and out. It was formed to create self-awareness and creative practice, and to encourage social change. Space is available for 21 artists to join. Thu., Dec. 9, 6:30-9:30pm. 2311-G Thornton, 585-1919. www.studiocommunities.org.

NEW AMERICAN TALENT: THE TWENTIETH This annual juried show at Arthouse features the work of emerging national artists working in a variety of media, and



The multiartist "Holiday Punch" show at Studio 107 includes new work by Heyd Fontenot; that's his *Leslie and Gonzo With a Rainbow of Jellybeans and Dandelion Puffs* above.

there's no reason why you shouldn't be among them, right?. That is, if you've got the goods and an ability to 1) meet the deadline, and 2) impress the exhibit's esteemed juror. This year's juror is Dan Cameron, senior curator of New York's New Museum of Contemporary Art. Prospectus available online. Postmark deadline: Dec. 15. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthouseatexas.org.

VISUAL ART IMAGE REGISTRY The Art in Public Places program is calling on artists who want to be considered for public art projects. (Submit your most practical/ambitious/outlandish proposals!) Application form available at the AIPP offices or online. Also, the deadline for the "Faces of Austin" film/video art opportunity has been extended to Dec. 6. 505 Barton Springs Rd. #850, 974-9312. www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp/opportunities.htm.

IDEA This organization, located in a renovated bread factory with plenty of space for hanging, seeks entries for its 2005 two-person exhibition schedule. Submit 10 slides, slide list, résumé, statement, SASE, and \$10 review fee. Postmark deadlines: Dec. 22; Jan. 22, 2005; Feb. 22, 2005. 701 Tillery #6, Austin, TX 78702, 472-3349. www.idea-art.org.

Gallery Lombardi's "Xmas Expo" features many artists and myriad styles, such as Scout Stormcloud's acrylic painting *Ed*.



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Closer

D: Mike Nichols; with Julia Roberts, Jude Law, Natalie Portman, Clive Owen. (R, 100 min.)

War is hell, but it's nothing compared to what we do to others and ourselves in the name of love. That's the premise of *Closer*, a relentlessly nasty film adapted from Patrick Marber's play that manages to win you over despite the fact that all four of its characters are clearly marked "damaged goods." Don't just return to sender – burn the box and shoot the mailman. Thanks to the immensely talented cast, Marber's excruciatingly accurate poison pen, and Nichols' assured directorial hand, however, the film sucks you in and sends you reeling. These four individuals are as base a lot of hopeless emotional black holes as any you'd be unlucky enough to encounter, but the real sting comes when you recognize the characters for who they are: Like Romero's zombies, they're us. Petty jealousies, covert betrayals, and a heaping helping of sadomasochistic self-loathing make for fine drama but lousy relationships, a life lesson that often takes so many so long to learn in the real world. Nichols has visited these dire environs before in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *Carnal Knowledge*,

but *Closer*, with its string of vitriolic contretemps and redoubtable "pas de dooms" played out amid the iconographically hip backdrop of modern London, is like a slap in the face of romanticism. Law plays Dan, writer of obituaries and aspiring novelist, who spies young Alice (Portman) crossing the street one fine day. Their eyes lock and tumble, and then she steps off the curb and is struck unconscious by a passing car. Seconds later she opens her eyes to find Dan kneeling over her, uttering the improbably perfect line, "Hello stranger," and we're off. Great films begin with minutely micromanaged scenes such as this, but for Nichols, as

for the characters, it's just the start. As the film jumps back and forth in time (a device lifted from Marber's original stage production), Dan and Alice end up moving in together (she's an ex-stripper with a gauzy past), he writes a book about her, and then he falls for photographer Anna (Roberts) when she shoots his jacket photo. Dalliances ensue, and Owen, as the alpha-male dermatologist Larry, enters the picture, only to fall for Anna (who may or may not have a thing for Dan). Recriminations and duplicities, both minor and major, pepper the script like saltpeter buckshot, and there you have it: Relationships for the Damned 101. All four leads ace their disreputable roles, with Roberts and Owen downright painful to watch during a scathing scene in which a suddenly emasculated Larry demands to know the particulars of infidelity. Who with, how many times, what position, where? Here? Jesus, no, not that, anything but that. It speaks volumes to the director's mastery of the form that, despite the audacious and ill-advised tortures these characters inflict upon one another, Nichols (and Marber) manages to wrest a glimmer of pity for them, just. Love's fractured fairy tale writ small and petty and almost too real to bear without flinching, *Closer* is an un-love story as honest and naked as Cupid in the devil's dock, the whole truth, and nothing but.

★★★★ CM Barton Creek, Arbor, Tinseltown North



First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

AFTER THE SUNSET

D: Brett Ratner; with Pierce Brosnan, Salma Hayek, Woody Harrelson, Don Cheadle, Naomie Harris, Troy Garity, Chris Penn. (PG-13, 100 min.)

The man behind the *Rush Hour* franchise proves that dropping sly nods in Alfred Hitchcock's direction does not necessarily a fine caper make. The script from Paul Zbyszewski is high-grade hokum, a cookie-cutter mishmash of Brosnan's minor-league Cary Grantisms and plenty of shots of Hayek's bosom and backside. It's as if the essence of the heist genre had been filtered through the mindset of *Maxim* magazine, complete with lingering looks at the various actresses lounging around in thongs and sarongs while the former 007, bless his Irish heart, does his best to play the scampy rogue with a heart of gold. Possibly the ideal film to more or less ignore while lounging poolside and sipping Jamaican rum, *After the Sunset* is 100-proof pap that's as inoffensively asinine as it is eager to explore the wonders of deep diving into Hayek's admittedly impressive cleavage. (11/12/04) – Marc Savlov

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Westgate, Tinseltown North, Highland, Tinseltown South, Gateway, Lakeline

ALEXANDER

D: Oliver Stone; with Colin Farrell, Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer, Anthony Hopkins, Jared Leto, Rosario Dawson, Christopher Plummer. (R, 173 min.)

A historical epic in search of a tone it never quite conquers, Stone's three-hour labor of love is simply laborious, a ponderous behemoth of a film that favors breathy exposition over the more battle-savvy aspects of the young king. There's been much talk of the film's accurate portrayal of the Macedonian Alexander (Farrell) as a bisexual naïf hurled into conflict, but the film focuses so much on the quasi-Shakespearean machinations of Alexander's serpent-loving mother, Olympias (Jolie, sporting a Russian-esque accent that makes you wonder if the greatest threat to her son's rule might just be Moose and Squirrel), that Alexander himself comes off as the king of indecision. Within Stone's oeuvre, *Alexander* ranks as his most exasperatingly off-target film, completely lacking the director's mordant, stick-in-the-eye humor, his love of conspiracy, and even his able hand with battlefield glory and its blackened flipside. *Alexander* is, in a word, boring, and that's the most un-Oliver Stone adjective I can think of. (11/26/04) – Marc Savlov

✚ Tinseltown North, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Round Rock, Westgate, Metropolitan, Gateway

ALFIE

D: Charles Shyer; with Jude Law, Marisa Tomei, Susan Sarandon, Nia Long, Omar Epps, Sienna Miller, Jane Krakowski. (R, 103 min.)

This remake of the 1966 hit, which starred Michael Caine as a Cockney serial seducer, reprises that film's catchphrase – "What's it all about?" But perhaps the more appropriate question to put to this remake would be "What the hell's the point?" In its study of the titular predatory male, the original *Alfie* brashly took on casual sex and its not so casual aftermath and became part of the cultural zeitgeist, whereas the new *Alfie* takes a hard look at ... the rise of the metrosexual? Obviously, *Alfie* reconfigured for a post-AIDS world required some tweaking, some concessions to our, gulp, more enlightened times. Besides moving the nattily dressed chauffeur's home base from swingin' London to über-stylish Manhattan, the filmmakers have also attempted to soften around the edges of that notorious misogynist. *Alfie*'s still a user but not an abuser of women. And no worries: He'll get his knuckles rapped by film's end. (11/05/04) – Kimberley Jones

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

New Reviews

WMD: WEAPONS OF MASS DECEPTION

D: Danny Schechter. (NR, 98 min.)

How can a military campaign of "shock and awe" be waged without cameras being present to record the effect? It's one of those "if a tree falls in the forest" questions: Does the event exist without the sensory experience of it? Almost by definition, the term "shock and awe" means a spectacle, which, in our 24-hour news/reality-obsessed 21st century, translates into "media spectacle." Investigative journalist Danny Schechter, a self-proclaimed "news dissector," poses this and many other thorny questions about the media's complicity in the war on Iraq. Schechter probes his subject matter not with the brain-teasing encouragement of a Zen koan master but with the dogged determinism of a no-bullshit journalist whose job it is to ask questions. The author of several books and an award-winning television producer who has worked at CNN and ABC's 20/20, Schechter is currently the executive editor and blogger-in-

chief of MediaChannel.org, the world's largest media issues network. Just as we are now investigating the massive intelligence failure that allowed the events of 9/11 and after to occur, Schechter believes that there also has been a failure of the media to scrutinize the information doled out to them in government press briefings and news conferences, which has ultimately resulted in uncritical groupthink and a dereliction of duty. Instead of doing its job as a government watchdog within our democratic system of checks and balances, the fourth estate was quick to fall into lockstep with the drumbeat toward war. The media became a huge part of the story rather than the distanced reporters they were theoretically trained to be. Government propagandists used the fourth estate as a sort of fourth front in the war, using journalists as the means for getting out their daily message and overall mission. As a group, journalists are largely based in NYC, the media capital of the world, and as a result may have felt the impact of 9/11 more personally than other occupational groups. No sooner had they finished affixing flag pins to their lapels than the rush to embed themselves with the military

began. One of the strongest sections of Schechter's movie is his coverage of the impossibility for embeds to report objectively once they had become emotionally aligned with the subjects they were covering (something described as akin to the Stockholm syndrome). *WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception* covers a slew of topics and speaks with literally dozens of journalists and analysts, all while Schechter personally narrates the film. It's impossible to take in all the information in one sitting and at times threatens to spin off in too many directions, but I guarantee this movie will provide plenty to mull over and inspire consumers to demand greater accountability from their media purveyors. Even when there is not a war on and human lives are not at stake, media accountability should be a goal of any democracy, and Schechter's film serves as a trenchant reminder. (*WMD: Weapons of Mass Destruction* premiered in Austin during the 2004 Austin Film Festival, where it won the jury's Best Documentary Award.) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Dobie

BEING JULIA

D: István Szabó; with Annette Bening, Catherine Charlton, Jeremy Irons, Michael Gambon, Shaun Evans, Miriam Margolyes, Juliet Stevenson, Bruce Greenwood, Rosemary Harris, Maury Chaykin. (R, 105 min.)

There are so few really great film roles written for middle-aged women that when one comes along and it's delivered forth in such spectacular fashion by the near-perfect Annette Bening, it's disappointing to have to note that the movie surrounding her is not equal to her performance. *Being Julia* is burdened with a few too many characters and subplots and a theatrical backstage story that, but for its fabulous title character, is pedestrian and predictable. At 45, Julia (Bening) is the reigning queen of the British stage (the story is set in 1938 London), as well as the leading lady in her own life for she, my dahlings, is the real thing: a dyed-in-the-wool drama queen. She brings to her life the same theatricality and calibrated histrionics she delivers nightly on stage. There's only one thing that can break through her emotional upper hand: love. Julia Lambert is a fool for love. (11/12/04) – Marjorie Baumgarten

BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON

D: Beeban Kidron; with Renée Zellweger, Colin Firth, Hugh Grant, Jacinda Barrett, Sally Phillips, Jim Broadbent, Gemma Jones. (R, 108 min.)

Movie purports to depict "what happens after you walk off into the sunset," based on boffo "chick" novel of same name. Cheeky Bridge (Zellweger) is cute and winning – should eat doughnuts more often. Vulnerable and sweet. Looks fabulous and Corman-esque in Wonderbra. (Note to self: Does Wonderbra come with nursing flaps?) Lovely timing for physical comedy – good news since Zellweger skis, takes psilocybin accidentally, teaches Thai women's prison inmates to lip-synch "Like a Virgin" (don't ask). Movie cuts out a lot of the farce and fills in blanks with Motown needle-drops to provide time-released "go-girl" sensation. Trio of supporting characters reduced to Greek chorus of love advice. Screenwriters not in agreement – Bridget an object of satire or Modern Urban Everygirl? "Delightful" misunderstandings becoming wearisome; wish Bridge would stop blabbering in voiceover and speak directly to other characters. Final verdict: Cast is excellent; movie is OK; men and women are sooooo different. (11/12/04) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Tinseltown North, Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Westgate, Tinseltown South, CM Barton Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS

D: Joe Roth; with Tim Allen, Jamie Lee Curtis, Dan Aykroyd, M. Emmet Walsh, Jake Busey, Cheech Marin, Austin Pendleton. (PG, 98 min.)

Christmas With the Kranks is a film so utterly denuded of genuine holiday charm that it ranks with *Santa Claus Conquers the Martians* as one of the most jaw-droppingly abysmal seasonal efforts yet released. (It's an unfair comparison, really, as *Santa Claus Conquers the Martians* was and is a psychotronic mini-classic of sad, bad moviemaking.) Is that ambrosia you smell? No, sorry, it's the cloying rank of filthy lucre lining the accursed pockets of the unholy three: direc-



Danny Schechter, News Dissector

WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception

OPENINGS

Closer (R)

WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception (NR)

RATINGS

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🍷 La bomba

tor Joe Roth, screenwriter Christopher Columbus, and attorney-turned-cottage industry John Grisham, upon whose novel (*Skipping Christmas*) this film is based. Egregiously mediocre and flagrantly ill-conceived in every department, this is, truly, the cinematic equivalent of finding a single solitary Saltine in your stocking and a pair of old tube socks beneath the tree. Humbug! (11/26/04) – Marc Savlov

🍷 Tinseltown North, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Round Rock, Westgate, Metropolitan, Gateway

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

D: Peter Berg; with Billy Bob Thornton, Derek Luke, Jay Hernandez, Lucas Black, Garrett Hedlund, Tim McGraw, Lee Thompson Young, Grover Coulson, Connie Britton. (PG-13, 117 min.)

The portrait of high school football in Odessa, Texas – home of the Permian High School Panthers and their devoted fans – is the heart of H.G. Bissinger's now-classic book and this movie. Losing isn't an option – not in a town where many of the boys' fathers wear championship rings and where the flat prairie land and tapped-out oil derricks loom on the horizon and offer few other avenues for accomplishment or escape. *Friday Night Lights*' game footage is as engrossing as the real thing, although it comes at the expense of attention to the teen players and their emotional problems. The movie's tone vacillates between sympathy and scorn for the town boosters and overly ardent relatives, which leaves the movie without a clear point of view about the whole Friday-night phenomenon. Viewers will be able to read into the do-or-die philosophy whatever they choose, and in the meantime simply enjoy this big-screen ode to the madness. (10/08/04) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Tinseltown South, Tinseltown North, Lakeline



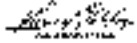
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SHOW TIMES

FRIDAY, DEC. 3 - THURSDAY, DEC. 9

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE DOWNTOWN 409-B Colorado, 474-1510. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

Buffy Sing-Along: Thu (12/9), 12mid
Flicker Film Festival: Thu (12/9), 9:45pm
Groundhog Day: Mon, 7:00pm; Tue, 9:45pm
A Hard Day's Night: Mon, 9:45pm
Lennon Tribute: A Hard Day's Night With Dung Beatles: Wed, 9:45pm
AFS: Lovers of the Arctic Circle: Tue, 7:00pm
Mr. Sinus Christmas Show: Fri-Sat, 7:00, 9:45; Sun, 6:00, 8:45; Thu (12/9), 7:00, 9:45
Napoleon Dynamite With Pedro (Efen Ramirez) in Attendance: Fri-Sat, 12mid
She Demons: Wed, 12mid
Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey: Tue, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-5408.

Alexander: 12:00, 3:40, 5:35, 7:40, 9:30
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: 1:25, 4:25, 7:30, 10:30
Christmas With the Kranks: 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
The Grudge: 9:55pm
Ray: 12:10, 3:50, 7:15, 10:35
Shall We Dance?: 12:05, 2:45
Sideways: 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 10:20
Team America: World Police: 1:45, 4:25, 7:10

ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.

Border Bandits: Mon, 7:00pm
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri, 4:15, 7:25, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:15, 4:15, 7:25, 10:10; Mon, 4:15, 10:10; Tue, 1:15, 4:15, 7:25, 10:10; Wed-Thu, 4:15, 7:25, 10:10
Halo Havoc: Sat, 12mid
I ♥ Huckabees: Fri, Sat, 12:00, 6:00; Sun, 12:00pm; Mon, 6:00pm; Tue, 12:00pm; Wed-Thu, 6:00pm
The Incredibles: Fri, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00; Mon, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00; Tue, 1:00, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00; Wed-Thu, 3:50, 7:00, 10:00
The Motorcycle Diaries: Fri, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 1:05, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20; Mon, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20; Tue, 1:05, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20; Wed-Thu, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20
Ray: Fri, 8:30pm; Sat-Sun, 2:25, 8:30; Mon, 8:30pm; Tue, 2:25, 8:30; Wed-Thu, 8:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Foleyvision: Santa vs. Satan: Sun, 7:00, 9:45
Videoke: Fri, 12mid

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.

Being Julia: Fri-Tue, 4:30, 10:05; Wed-Thu, 4:30pm
Closer: 11:50am, 12:30, 2:30, 3:00, 5:00, 5:20, 7:25, 7:50, 10:00, 10:20pm
I ♥ Huckabees: 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30
Kinsey: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 4:00, 4:50, 6:50, 9:40, 10:15; Mon, 12:20, 4:00, 4:50, 6:50, 9:40; Tue-Thu, 12:20, 4:00, 4:50, 6:50, 9:40, 10:15
The Motorcycle Diaries: Fri-Tue, 12:50, 7:05; Wed-Thu, 12:50pm
Austin FilmWorks: Nudge 1.5: A Micro Digital Film Festival: Wed, 6:30, 9:15; Thu (12/9), 6:30, 9:00, 10:30
Sideways: Fri-Sun, 12:40, 2:10, 4:15, 7:10, 7:35, 9:50; Mon, 12:40, 2:10, 4:15, 7:10, 9:50; Tue-Thu, 12:40, 2:10, 4:15, 7:10, 7:35, 9:50
What the #\$*! Do We Know!?: 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) Highway 360 and Walsh Tarlton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.

***Alexander:** Fri, 3:10, 7:15, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 3:10, 7:15, 9:20pm; Mon-Tue, 3:10, 7:15, 9:20
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30; Mon-Tue, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30
***Closer:** Fri, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:45, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 12:00, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:45, 10:10pm; Mon-Tue, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:35, 9:45, 10:10
I ♥ Huckabees: Fri, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Tue, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
National Treasure: Fri, 2:15, 2:55, 3:40, 5:15, 6:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:40, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 11:45, 12:25, 2:15, 2:55, 3:40, 5:15, 6:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:40, 10:00pm; Mon-Tue, 2:15, 2:55, 3:40, 5:15, 6:30, 7:00, 8:15, 9:40, 10:00
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: Fri, 2:40, 4:00, 5:05, 6:45, 7:45, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 12:10, 1:40, 2:40, 4:00, 5:05, 6:45, 7:45, 9:55pm; Mon-Tue, 2:40, 4:00, 5:05, 6:45, 7:45, 9:55

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 6pm.

After the Sunset: 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35
Alfie: 7:45, 10:05
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri-Sun, 1:15, 2:00, 2:45, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:30, 7:15, 9:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu, 2:05, 2:45, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:30, 7:15, 9:00, 9:50
The Grudge: Fri-Sun, 1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55; Mon-Thu, 3:30, 5:45, 7:50, 9:55
The Incredibles: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:00, 4:45, 5:20, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:15; Sun, 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:00, 4:45, 5:20, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30; Mon-Thu, 1:45, 2:30, 4:00, 4:45, 5:20, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30
The Motorcycle Diaries: Fri-Sun, 1:40, 4:40, 7:25, 10:00; Mon-Thu, 2:00, 4:40, 7:25, 10:00
Napoleon Dynamite: Fri-Sat, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 8:05, 10:20; Sun, 1:05, 3:20, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45; Mon-Thu, 3:20, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45
***The Polar Express:** Fri-Sat, 1:30, 2:20, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:20; Sun, 1:30, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:20; Mon-Thu, 1:35, 2:20, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 9:20
Ray: Fri-Sat, 3:10, 6:35, 9:45; Sun-Thu, 3:10, 6:35, 9:35
Seed of Chucky: 8:00, 9:55
Shall We Dance?: 7:55, 10:10
Sideways: Fri-Sun, 1:25, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu, 1:40, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05

Check Film listings at
austinchronicle.com
for updated showtimes.

CAFE MUNDI 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634.
East Austin Stories Documentary Series: Wed, 10:00pm

DOBIE THEATRE LANDMARK 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FLIM.
Kinsey: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu, 7:00, 9:50
The Machinist: Fri, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Mon-Thu, 7:10, 10:00
Sideways: Fri, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40; Mon-Thu, 6:50, 9:40
WMD: Weapons of Mass Deception: Fri, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 9:30; Mon-Thu, 7:20, 9:30

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. Discounts daily before 6pm.

After the Sunset: Fri-Tue, 9:45pm
***Alexander:** Fri-Tue, 1:30, 5:00, 8:30
***Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason:** Fri-Tue, 1:10, 3:20, 5:40, 7:50, 9:55
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri-Tue, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:05, 9:20
The Incredibles: Fri-Tue, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00
National Treasure: Fri-Tue, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
The Polar Express: Fri-Tue, 12:25pm
Ray: Fri-Tue, 1:20, 5:20, 8:40
Seed of Chucky: Fri-Tue, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:50
***The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie:** Fri-Tue, 1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:15, 9:00

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake Blvd., between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.

After the Sunset: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 3:10, 7:40, 10:40
***Alexander:** Fri-Tue, 11:30am, 12:00, 3:30, 4:00, 7:30, 8:00pm
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri-Tue, 11:35am, 12:50, 2:25, 3:50, 5:00, 7:10, 7:45, 9:50, 10:45pm
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri-Tue, 11:40am, 12:10, 2:10, 2:40, 4:45, 5:20, 7:15, 7:55, 9:55, 10:40pm
The Incredibles: Fri-Tue, 12:05, 12:35, 1:00, 3:00, 3:40, 4:05, 6:30, 7:00, 7:25, 9:25, 10:10, 10:35; Mon, 12:05, 12:35, 1:00, 3:00, 4:05, 6:30, 7:00, 9:25, 10:10, 10:35; Tue, 12:05, 12:35, 1:00, 3:00, 3:40, 4:05, 6:30, 7:00, 7:25, 9:25, 10:10, 10:35
National Treasure: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:25, 3:35, 4:10, 6:50, 7:35, 10:00, 10:45pm
The Polar Express: Fri-Tue, 12:40, 3:10, 6:55, 9:30
Ray: Fri-Tue, 11:55am, 3:15, 6:45, 10:05pm
Saw: Fri-Tue, 10:20pm
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 12:20, 2:20, 2:50, 4:40, 5:10, 7:05, 7:40, 9:40pm; Mon, 11:50am, 12:20, 2:20, 2:50, 4:40, 5:10, 7:05, 7:40pm; Tue, 11:50am, 12:20, 2:20, 2:50, 4:40, 5:10, 7:05, 7:40, 9:40pm

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.

Bugs! 3-D: A Rainforest Adventure: 1:00, 6:00
The Polar Express: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00; Mon-Thu, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:00pm
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Thu, 10:00am

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.

After the Sunset: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35pm
Elf: Sat, 10:00am
Friday Night Lights: 7:10, 10:10
The Incredibles: 12:20, 12:50, 3:20, 4:40, 6:50, 7:30, 9:45, 10:25
Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius: Sat, 10:00am
National Treasure: 12:00, 1:00, 3:10, 4:10, 6:40, 7:20, 9:40, 10:20
The Polar Express: 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
Shark Tale: 12:10, 2:30, 4:50
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: 11:45am, 12:40, 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:20, 7:00, 7:50, 9:30, 10:00pm

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.

***Alexander:** Fri-Tue, 12:00, 3:30, 4:00, 7:30, 8:00
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 12:15, 1:00, 2:25, 3:00, 4:25, 5:00, 5:35, 7:10, 7:40, 8:10, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45pm
The Grudge: Fri-Tue, 2:05, 4:50, 7:15, 10:00
National Treasure: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 1:10, 2:00, 4:10, 5:25, 6:30, 7:20, 8:30, 9:55, 10:30
Ray: Fri-Tue, 3:15, 6:45, 10:20
Seed of Chucky: Fri-Tue, 2:05, 4:50, 7:15, 10:00
Shall We Dance?: Fri-Tue, 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: Fri-Tue, 12:25, 2:15, 2:45, 4:45, 5:15, 7:05, 7:50, 9:30
Team America: World Police: Fri-Tue, 10:05pm

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.

The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement: Fri, 4:00pm; Sat, 11:00am, 2:00pm; Wed-Thu, 4:00pm
Resident Evil: Apocalypse: Fri, 7:00pm; Sat, 4:30, 6:30, 8:15; Wed-Thu, 7:00pm

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

***Alexander:** Fri, 3:50, 8:00; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 3:50, 8:00pm; Mon-Tue, 3:50, 8:00
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25; Sat, 11:30am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50, 10:25pm; Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50pm; Mon-Tue, 2:10, 5:00, 7:50
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; Sat, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00pm; Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30pm; Mon-Tue, 2:00, 4:50, 7:30
The Incredibles: Fri, 1:15, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20; Sat, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:15, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 9:50, 10:20pm; Sun, 10:30am, 11:00, 1:15, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40pm; Mon-Tue, 1:15, 1:50, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40
National Treasure: Fri, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15; Sat, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20pm; Mon-Tue, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20
The Polar Express: Fri, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35; Sat, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:35pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10pm; Mon-Tue, 1:30, 4:30, 7:10
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: Fri, 1:40, 4:00, 6:50, 9:10; Sat, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:00, 6:50, 9:10pm; Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:00, 6:50pm; Mon-Tue, 1:40, 4:00, 6:50

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.

After the Sunset: Fri-Tue, 10:05pm
***Alexander:** Fri, 12:10, 1:10, 4:05, 5:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 9:20am, 12:10, 1:10, 4:05, 5:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00pm; Mon-Tue, 12:10, 1:10, 4:05, 5:10, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri, 1:35, 4:30, 7:10, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:10, 10:15pm; Mon-Tue, 1:35, 4:30, 7:10, 10:15
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri, 11:40am, 1:50, 2:20, 4:25, 4:55, 7:00, 7:30, 9:35, 10:05pm; Sat-Sun, 9:10am, 11:15, 11:40, 1:50, 2:20, 4:25, 4:55, 7:00, 7:30, 9:35, 10:05pm; Mon-Tue, 11:40am, 1:50, 2:20, 4:25, 4:55, 7:00, 7:30, 9:35, 10:05pm
***Closer:** Fri, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm; Sat-Sun, 9:15am, 11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Tue, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm
Friday Night Lights: Fri, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 2:05, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
The Grudge: Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:40, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40pm; Mon-Tue, 1:40, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40
The Incredibles: Fri, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:35, 5:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:10, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 9:25am, 9:55, 10:30, 11:00, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:35, 5:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:10, 10:30pm; Mon-Tue, 12:30, 1:00, 1:30, 2:00, 3:30, 4:00, 4:35, 5:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:10, 10:30
National Treasure: Fri, 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:30, 7:05, 7:35, 9:40, 10:10, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 9:00am, 9:30, 10:00, 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:30, 7:05, 7:35, 9:40, 10:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Tue, 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:30, 7:05, 7:35, 9:40, 10:10, 10:40pm
The Polar Express: Fri, 12:35, 1:05, 3:35, 4:10, 6:40, 7:20, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 9:40am, 10:10, 12:35, 1:05, 3:35, 4:10, 6:40, 7:20, 9:25pm; Mon-Tue, 12:35, 1:05, 3:35, 4:10, 6:40, 7:20, 9:25
Ray: Fri, 2:50, 6:35, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 2:50, 6:35, 10:00pm; Mon-Tue, 2:50, 6:35, 10:00
Saw: Fri-Tue, 8:00pm
The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie: Fri, 11:50am, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:45pm; Sat-Sun, 9:25am, 9:45, 11:50, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:45pm; Mon-Tue, 11:50am, 12:15, 2:15, 2:45, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 7:45, 9:45pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.

After the Sunset: Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 1:30, 3:30, 6:55, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu, 1:00, 3:30, 6:55, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 11:20, 1:05, 2:00, 4:05, 5:00, 7:05, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu, 1:05, 2:00, 4:05, 5:00, 7:05, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30
Friday Night Lights: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:55, 4:00, 7:25, 10:20pm; Mon-Tue, 12:55, 4:00, 7:25, 10:20
I ♥ Huckabees: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:05, 3:45, 7:25, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu, 1:05, 3:45, 7:25, 10:10
The Incredibles: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 10:30, 10:45, 11:15, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:00, 10:20pm; Mon, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:00, 10:20; Tue, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:00, 10:20; Wed-Thu, 1:00, 1:15, 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:15, 7:30, 8:05, 9:45, 10:00, 10:20
The Motorcycle Diaries: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu, 1:20, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55
The Polar Express: Fri, 10:55am, 12:50, 1:25, 1:55, 3:30, 4:15, 4:55, 7:10, 7:55, 9:30, 10:25pm; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 10:55, 11:35, 12:50, 1:25, 1:55, 3:30, 4:15, 4:55, 7:10, 7:55, 9:30, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu, 12:50, 1:25, 1:55, 3:30, 4:15, 4:55, 7:10, 7:55, 9:30, 10:25
Saw: Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 12:55, 1:50, 3:35, 4:55, 7:00, 7:50, 9:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu, 12:55, 1:50, 3:35, 4:55, 7:00, 7:50, 9:35, 10:25
Shark Tale: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 1:55, 4:50pm; Mon-Thu, 1:55, 4:50
Sideways: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:50, 3:40, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu, 12:50, 3:40, 7:30, 10:15
Taxi: 7:20, 9:55

WESTGATE 11 South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717. Discounts daily before 6pm.

After the Sunset: Fri-Tue, 12:35, 2:55, 5:25, 7:40, 9:55
***Alexander:** Fri-Tue, 12:00, 4:00, 8:00
Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason: Fri-Tue, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm
***Christmas With the Kranks:** Fri-Tue, 12:10, 2:35, 5:10, 7:55, 10:20
Elf: Sat, 10:00am
The Incredibles: Fri, 11:30am, 1:25, 2:15, 4:05, 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:35pm; Sat, 10:20am, 11:30, 1:25, 2:15, 4:05, 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:35pm; Sun, 11:30am, 1:25, 2:15, 4:05, 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Tue, 11:30am, 1:25, 2:15, 5:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:35pm
The Incredibles (open captioned): Mon-Tue, 4:05, 7:10
Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius: Sat, 10:00am
National Treasure: Fri, 12:15, 1:35, 3:40, 4:35, 6:55, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30; Sat, 10:30am, 12:15, 1:35, 3:40, 4:35, 6:55, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30pm; Sun-Tue, 12:15, 1:35, 3:40, 4:35, 6:55, 7:35, 10:00, 10:30
The Polar Express: Fri, 12:25, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40; Sat

THE INCREDIBLES

D: Brad Bird; with the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson, Jason Lee, Spencer Fox, Sarah Vowell, Elizabeth Peña. (PG, 115 min.)

An order-of-magnitude leap forward in animated storytelling, this seriocomic take on the superhero genre overflows with slapstick and more gentle strains of humor. This is Pixar all grown up, but still, at times, wonderfully silly. As comedies go, *The Incredibles* is like mainlining a snappy, heady mix of comic-book shenanigans and modern parenting, and the end result is a film that will likely impress parents even more than it does their offspring. *The Incredibles* is more than just another masterpiece of computer-generated animation (although Pixar's skill with the form is unassailable); it's an animated film that flows and feels — despite the bizarre comic-book proportionalities of its characters — just like a live-action one. Too often in modern animation the story takes a back seat to either the comedy or the imagery, but here, via Bird's more-than-capable directorial and screen-writing skills, it runs to the front of the frame and stays there throughout. (11/05/04) — Marc Savlov

★★★★ Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate, Tinseltown South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Highland, Lakeline, AMC Barton Creek Square, Westgate

KINSEY

D: Bill Condon; with Liam Neeson, Laura Linney, Peter Sarsgaard, Chris O'Donnell, Timothy Hutton, John Lithgow, Oliver Platt, Tim Curry. (R, 118 min.)

Bill Condon's biopic about Alfred Kinsey, the controversial sex researcher whose 1949 book, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, significantly raised the nation's blood pressure, is vaguely "churchy" (as Kinsey's wife describes him) — not in a religious sense, but in a decorous, starched-collar sort of way. Kinsey, as envisioned by Neeson and writer/director Condon, is kept at a remove, and the film tends to enshrine the scientist and his life's work at the expense of a more rigorous — and therefore more profound — scrutiny. A case could be made that Kinsey's dedication to his research bordered on mania — at one point, he pricks his own foreskin just to see how it feels — and that is exactly the kind of knotty, nonglossy detail the film could use more of. Alas, *Kinsey* is too tasteful by half, and while it may have its gentle charms, it never thrills. (11/26/04) — Kimberley Jones

★★★ Dobie, Arbor

THE MACHINIST

D: Brad Anderson; with Christian Bale, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Aitana Sánchez-Gijón, John Sharian, Michael Ironside, Anna Massey. (R, 102 min.)

Trevor Reznik (Bale) is an industrial worker who hasn't slept in a year. He's also haunted by certain images and patterns, and the copy of Dostoyevsky's *The Idiot* lying on a table in his apartment provides a solid clue that Trevor's feeling guilty about something. Through the first half of the movie, Anderson skillfully creates an unsettling mood. Despite Trevor's pathological appearance and his sleepless mind, he seems basically normal. The film tosses us into a world desaturated of color in which it's unclear where the lines between sanity and insanity reside. Yet by the time blood starts oozing from Trevor's refrigerator somewhere around the movie's midway mark, it's clear that this story cannot end well. Anderson definitely has a flair for creating a diffuse sense of fear, paranoia, and mental illness onscreen. However, his film never gives us the nuts and bolts of mental illness and guilt, just the sight of cooped-up steam escaping from a valve that's about to blow. (11/26/04) — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Dobie

THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES

D: Walter Salles; with Gael García Bernal, Rodrigo de la Serna, Mía Maestro, Mercedes Morán, Jorge Chiarella, Jaime Azócar. (R, 128 min.)

Dr. Goodlove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Proletariat might have been a better title for this ingratiatingly loopy origin story about prerevolutionary icon Ernesto "Che" Guevara (Bernal), pal Alberto Granado (de la Serna), and their historic, hysteric 8,000-mile sojourn from Buenos Aires to northernmost Venezuela

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ALEXANDER ** (R)
1:30, 5:00, 8:30pm
NATIONAL TREASURE ** (PG)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40pm
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON ** (R)
1:10, 3:20, 5:40, 7:50, 9:55pm
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE ** (PG)
1:00, 1:30, 3:00, 3:30, 5:00, 5:30, 7:00, 7:15, 9:00pm
SEED OF CHUCKY (R)
3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:50pm
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13)
9:45pm
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G)
12:25pm
THE INCREDIBLES (PG)
12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:00, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00pm
RAY (PG13)
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MUSIC BY ROLFE KENT SUPERVISOR DONDI BASTONE PRODUCED BY GEORGE PARRA COSTUME DESIGNER WENDY CHUCK EDITOR KEVIN TENT, A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER JANE ANN STEWART
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY PHEDON PAPAMICHAEL, ASC PRODUCED BY MICHAEL LONDON BASED ON THE NOVEL BY REX PICKETT SCREENPLAY BY ALEXANDER PAYNE & JIM TAYLOR DIRECTED BY ALEXANDER PAYNE

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SUN, DEC 5	THE SINUS XMAS SHOW! 6:00 & 8:45
MON, DEC 6	GROUNDHOG DAY 7:00 A HARD DAY'S NIGHT 9:45
TUE, DEC 7	AFS: LOVERS OF THE ARCTIC CIRCLE 7:00 GROUNDHOG DAY 9:45
WED, DEC 8	TX DOC TOUR: THEREMIN w/ LIVE ORCHESTRA! 7:00 LENNON TRIBUTE NIGHT: HARD DAY'S NIGHT 9:45 WEIRD WED (FREE) SHE-DEMONS 12 MIDNIGHT
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astride a rickety 1939 Norton 500 motorcycle in 1952. Che's awakening is seen as a series of improbable encounters on the road, with the disenfranchised poor, with the displaced of the rainforest, with lepers, and with his own inner struggles. Movie heartthrob Bernal makes for an arrestingly lovely Guevara – he's the sex symbol for *la revolución*. Salles, along with cinematographer Eric Gautier, has an eye for the crazy beauty of youth on the road. The road, after all, is the third co-star of this film, and at times it rivals Bernal's chiseled handsomeness for sheer intractable magnetism. (10/08/04) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Tinseltown South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

NAPOLEON DYNAMITE

D: Jared Hess; with Jon Heder, Efen Ramirez, Jon Gries, Aaron Ruell, Tina Majorino, Diedrich Bader, Sandy Martin. (PG, 86 min.)
Napoleon Dynamite (Heder) is a teenage dork. Like its mumbling, monotonous protagonist, this festival charmer takes its time making a point. It luxuriates in small-town kitsch at such length that at first one wonders if it isn't exploiting its characters, but fortunately, writer-director Hess finally steps up in the second act and propels the story into its rightful place, celebrating the youthful underdog. The movie also successfully engages issues of class and race without bobbling its offbeat, offhand mood. This is the kind of movie you get when the kids from the AV Club grow out of their headgear, put down their 12-sided dice, and start making independent films. It's not always narratively on point (its origins as a 2003 short are evident from its meanderings), but the detours are ultimately well worth the trip for the texture they provide. (06/25/04) – Marrit Ingman
★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

NATIONAL TREASURE

D: Jon Turteltaub; with Nicolas Cage, Diane Kruger, Justin Bartha, Sean Bean, Jon Voight, Harvey Keitel, Christopher Plummer. (PG, 131 min.)
Absurdism taken to a new extreme, this Disney-Michael Bay co-production is loaded with that producer's innate love of car chases and errant gunpowder, while maintaining a very Disneyfied (and virtually nonexistent) body count and a gravely silly respect for off-kilter Americana. In the end, it's the odd casting and unimaginative, workmanlike direction that make the painfully overlong *National Treasure* the exercise in mediocrity it is. Toss in a slice of a conspiracy-minded bestseller and one of the most bombastic scores of the year and you've got a recipe for cinematic malaise that leaves your head aching from all the improbabilities, explicit and otherwise, that clutter the exposition-heavy storyline at every hairpin turn. For all its emphatic national-history glee (Cage routinely dispenses nuggets of historical wisdom like he's spitting pumpkin seeds), *National Treasure* is an underdone pastiche of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and a really tedious high school history class. (11/19/04) – Marc Savlov
★ Metropolitan, Gateway, Round Rock, Westgate, Lakeline, Highland, CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North



Lovers of the Arctic Circle

AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY: Besides Almodóvar, Other Spanish Directors: **Lovers of the Arctic Circle (1998)** D: Julio Medem; with Najwa Nimi, Fele Martinez, Nancho Novo, Maru Valdivielso, Peru Medem, Sara Vallente, Kristel Diaz, Victor Hugo Oliveira. (R, 112 min.) This December series of the film society is devoted to recent Spanish cinema. *Lovers of the Arctic Circle*, by the director of *Sex and Lucía*, works on an intuitive level that pulls us along with seductive lures appropriate to its grandly romantic underpinnings. See related story on p.65 of this week's Screens section. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Tuesday, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (reserve space or tickets online at www.austinfilm.org).

THE POLAR EXPRESS

D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks, Michael Jeter, Peter Scolari, Nona Gaye, Eddie Deezen, Charles Fleischer. (G, 100 min.)
Chris Van Allsburg's magical tale of the Christmas Eve re-education of a Santa-doubting adolescent teetering on the brink of disbelief gets a multimillion-dollar makeover via CGI and a revolutionary new filming process that allows Hanks to "act" five different roles. There's Christmas magic in Zemeckis' film, but there's also a bizarre, palpable sense of unease lurking just below the surface. Nearly all of that is due to the animation style, which faithfully replicates Van Allsburg's painterly compositions, but doesn't translate all that successfully to the screen. If the human characters give you the willies, they're nothing compared to Santa's elfin minions (believe me, the word fits), who, with their big ears and pug faces, look like micronaut Bowery Boys on a snowblowing bender. William Broyles' script is faithful to the spirit of the original 30-page text while adding various hair-raising events at every turn, but Zemeckis and DreamWorks' legions of animators have sorely goofed with this new animation style. (11/12/04) – Marc Savlov
★★ IMAX Theatre, Tinseltown South, Westgate, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Lakeline, Highland, Round Rock, AMC Barton Creek Square

THE PRINCESS DIARIES 2: ROYAL ENGAGEMENT

D: Garry Marshall; with Anne Hathaway, Julie Andrews, Hector Elizondo, John Rhys-Davies. (G, 120 min.)
Although it's a stretch to say this film's predecessor was realistic – geeky California girl finds out she's really the princess of an obscure Western Europe country! – it did have burrowed in its fairy-tale trapping a measure of contemporary resonance in Princess Mia's (Hathaway) teenage woes. Here, the darn thing's gone off the deep end, a pure contrivance that hinges on an arranged marriage for Mia. Still, *Royal Engagement* passes painlessly enough, thanks to the affability of its trio of leads, Hathaway, Andrews (as Mia's grandmother), and Elizondo (as the head of palace security). All three are class personified – not a little bit incongruous in such a low-rent, cornball production – and even if little girls won't find an ounce of originality or ingenuity in Marshall's middling genre outing, they will find in Hathaway's spunky mix of regal poise and girl-next-door klutzdom a worthy role model. (08/13/04) – Kimberley Jones
★★★ Millennium

RAY

D: Taylor Hackford; with Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington, Regina King, Clifton Powell, Harry J. Lennix, Bokeem Woodbine, Aunjanue Ellis, Sharon Warren, C.J. Sanders, Curtis Armstrong, Richard Schiff, Larenz Tate. (PG-13, 152 min.)
The music of Ray Charles is a national treasure, as is the artist's legacy. The same can't be said for *Ray*, the movie of his life, although the transcendent performance of Jamie Foxx as Ray Charles kicks this otherwise ordinary biopic into the realm of the extraordinary. The movie follows a pedestrian biopic path, recounting the early struggles of the artist, his dual addictions to heroin and women, and his ultimate redemption and embrace as a beloved American icon. Despite the movie's 2½-hour running time, *Ray* concludes well before Charles' death this past summer, making it seem like the movie's almost fairy-tale episode of Charles kicking heroin is the real end of this story: It's the kind of rise, fall, and redemption pattern that has become familiar to any casual watcher of television's *Behind the Music*-type shows. Nevertheless, no matter the movie's pitfalls, *Ray*, we can't stop loving you. (10/29/04) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ Metropolitan, Westgate, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Highland, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Tinseltown North, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway

RESIDENT EVIL: APOCALYPSE

D: Alexander Witt; with Milla Jovovich, Sienna Guillory, Oded Fehr, Thomas Kretschmann, Jared Harris, Mike Epps. (R, 93 min.)
This video-game-inspired sequel to 2002's *Resident Evil* has the look and feel of a modestly budgeted European horror knockoff. The leggy, sexy Jovovich is back as Alice, who previously battled the undead that were brought back to life as accidental bio-weapons by the sinister Umbrella Corporation. Once again, she's pitted against the lifeless hoards, although the stakes are raised considerably, as the infection has broken free of the Corporation's underground bunker and infected, within the first five minutes of the film, the entire population of Raccoon City. Witt manages the ebb and flow of the action set-pieces especially well, and he has an eye for night-lensed chaos, but ultimately his fight choreography ends up being so muddled with rapid-fire editing that it's often difficult to tell who's bashing whom. The zombies, noticeably, are shot in the sort of slow-motion, blurred charges that render individual horrors moot, a sure sign of a meager make-up effects budget. (09/17/04) – Marc Savlov
★★ Millennium

East Austin Stories Documentary Series

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF RADIO-TV-FILM: **East Austin Stories Documentary Series (2004)** D: Various. (NR, 90 min.) East Austin Stories is an ongoing collaboration between UT student filmmakers and residents and organizations in East Austin to tell local stories on film. The videos this season show undocumented workers telling their stories; visits to a new alternative music venue, the Vortex Theater, and the El Rey Polo taco stand; a Garza student transitioning to UT; investigations of the last hot-lead Monotype machine in Austin and an Iraqi war veteran seeking justice regarding current criminal charges. The past catalog of films from the class can be viewed @ Cafe Mundi; Wednesday, 10pm. @Our Lady of Guadalupe Church; Wednesday, 6:30pm. www.eastaustinstories.org.



Sideways

SAW

D: James Wan; with Cary Elwes, Leigh Whannell, Danny Glover, Ken Keung, Dina Meyer, Monica Potter, Makenzie Vega. (R, 100 min.)

Wan's directorial debut arrives with so much hype surrounding it that nothing in this horror film could ever be as shocking as the realization of just how undeserved that buzz actually is. Not only is this serial-killer tale far from original (for starters, it borrows bits from David Fincher's *Seven* and any number of Danny Glover's trademark cop films), but it also contains some of the most abysmal acting – courtesy of the Dread Pirate Roberts himself, Cary Elwes – this side of a Herschell Gordon Lewis gag fest. The film, decidedly ambitious though it may well be, is hardly the opening salvo on a new, harder, more ghastly stream of horror filmmaking. *Saw* has its moments, and most of them are brutal in the extreme, but ultimately it's one tremendous misfire that will either leave you laughing or, possibly, gagging. (10/29/04) – Marc Savlov

★ Tinseltown South, Tinseltown North, Gateway

SEED OF CHUCKY

D: Don Mancini; with Jennifer Tilly, Redman, John Waters, Hannah Spearritt; with the voices of Brad Dourif, Billy Boyd. (R, 87 min.)

You know you're watching some sort of bizarre classic when King of Trash John Waters gets half his face burned off by sulfuric acid in the first act. Installment No. 5 in the once-moribund *Child's Play* franchise isn't quite the roller coaster from hell that the series' last outing (Ronny Yu's sublimely twisted *Bride of Chucky*) was, but it's surely the most engaging, and, dare I say, emotionally honest. Not that the film's diehard gore fans are looking for a voodoo-inflected metaphor for addictive personality disorder and the resulting chaos it can inflict on an otherwise healthy relationship, but hey, think of this as your bonus cinematic subtext for the week. Mancini's pacing is leaden compared to Yu's, and a number of the gags miss their mark – but the film, for all its outrageous dialogue and special effects, is genuinely inspired silliness. (11/19/04) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Metropolitan, Highland, AMC Barton Creek Square

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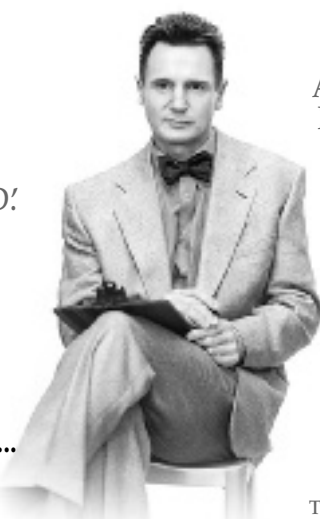
RICHARD ROEPER, Ebert & Roeper

"'KINSEY' IS LIKELY TO BE THE BEST-RECEIVED FILM OF ITS KIND SINCE 'A BEAUTIFUL MIND' LIAM NEESON GIVES AN OSCAR-WORTHY PERFORMANCE."

Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES

"'WICKEDLY FUNNY... AND SMART!'"

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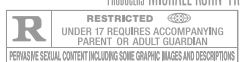
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From the
Writer-Director of
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KINSEY

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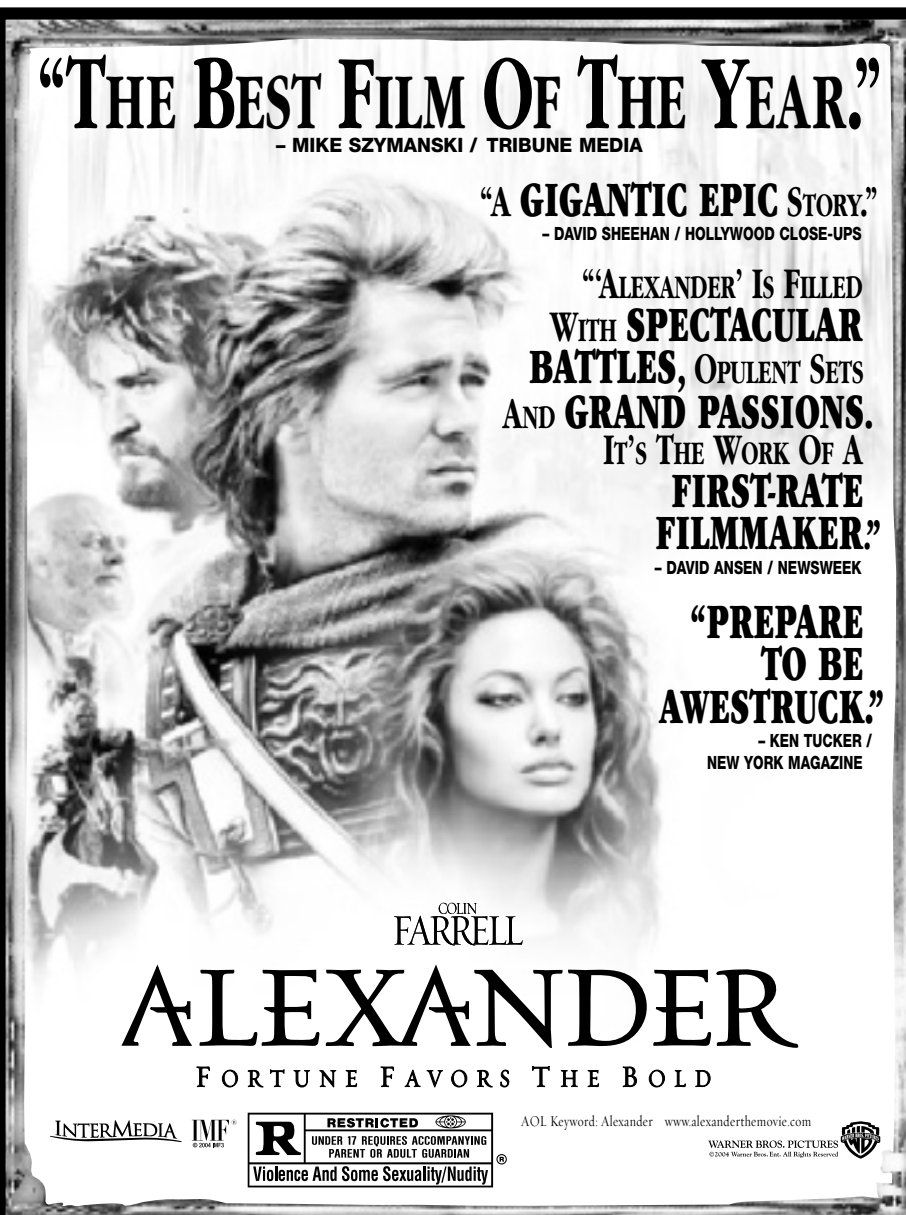
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SHALL WE DANCE?

D: Peter Chelsom; with Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon, Jennifer Lopez, Stanley Tucci, Anita Gillette, Lisa Ann Walter, Bobby Cannavale, Omar Miller, Richard Jenkins. (PG-13, 106 min.)

In this Americanized remake of a 1996 Japanese film of the same name, a workaholic Chicago attorney (Gere) stuck in the rut of contemporary life unexpectedly finds relief in the form of ballroom dancing lessons. While the screenplay coyly flirts with the notion that he is contemplating something more than a rumba lesson, Gere's performance communicates a boyish innocence that eventually leads you to conclude that he's only trying to connect with someone who, as he puts it, looks on the outside the way he feels on the inside. The only trouble is, *Shall We Dance?* doesn't effectively communicate the depth of his despair before he finds salvation in the clandestine joy of dance. Nonetheless, it's hard not to get caught up in this film, despite its many flaws, primarily because Gere makes for a sympathetic figure, a middle-aged man just wanting to feel something new in the autumn of his life. (10/15/04) – Steve Davis

★★★ Metropolitan, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square

SHARK TALE

D: Vicky Jenson, Bibo Bergeron, Rob Letterman; with the voices of Will Smith, Robert De Niro, Renée Zellweger, Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Martin Scorsese, Ziggy Marley, Doug E. Doug, Michael Imperioli, Vincent Pastore, Peter Falk, Katie Couric. (PG, 90 min.)

There's a surprising lack of surprises in DreamWorks' answer to Disney/Pixar's runaway smash *Finding Nemo*. It's not that *Shark Tale* is a bad film – kids will bask in the underwater eye-candy colors – it's just that there's so little that feels fresh to adult eyes that it may as well have come out back in the ancient days of *Toy Story*. *Shark Tale*'s problems stem from a dearth of fresh jokes and a corresponding surfeit of obvious ones. Much of the film's genuine humor, what there is of it, comes from the secondary characters, including Ziggy Marley and Doug E. Doug as Rastafarian fish Ernie and Bernie, a running gag on Michael Schultz's bicentennial classic *Car Wash* (now a whale wash), and some of the most bizarre product placement ever to (dis-)grace the screen, à la Kelpy Kreame and, yeesh, Old Navy. (10/08/04) – Marc Savlov

★★ Lakeline, Tinseltown South

SIDEWAYS

D: Alexander Payne; with Paul Giamatti, Thomas Haden Church, Virginia Madsen, Sandra Oh. (R, 123 min.)

Who knows what might happen when men become uncorked? *Sideways* is a smart and delightful romantic comedy, yet in the course of creating his new charmer Alexander Payne has sheared off some of the rambunctious edges that made his previous films, *About Schmidt*, *Election*, and *Citizen Ruth*, such marvelous studies in social parody. Adapting from Rex Pickett's novel with his writing partner, Jim Taylor, Payne has



The Krone Experiment

Nudge 1.5

AUSTIN FILMWORKS: Nudge 1.5: A Micro Digital Film Festival (2004) (NR) This is the second installment of screenings of final film projects made by students in Production One and Two classes at Austin FilmWorks. Also showcased in the series are three independently produced films: David Layton's *The Hot Shoe* at 6:30pm on Wednesday, Rob Wheeler's *The Krone Experiment* at 9:15pm on Wednesday, and Will Moore's *Wesley Cash* at 6:30pm on Thursday. The Production One shorts screen at 9pm on Thursday, and the Production Two shorts follow at 10:30pm on Thursday. @Arbor; Wednesday, 6:30pm, 9:15pm; Thursday (12/9), 6:30pm, 9pm, 10:30pm; \$6.

created a sophisticated date movie about male midlife malcontents and the women who love them. And there is nothing wrong with *Sideways* that the inclusion of a few unimagined unpredictabilities wouldn't have improved. *Sideways* pleases but it does not surprise. The note-perfect ensemble cast is the key to *Sideways*' abiding charm, and it makes us recognize that Payne's work with actors may be his greatest talent. Payne has fun mocking the rituals of wine-snobbery and the many pitfalls of men behaving badly. (11/05/04) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Tinseltown South, Dobie, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek

THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE

D: Stephen Hillenburg; with the voices of Tom Kenny, Rodger Bumpass, Bill Fagerbakke, Alec Baldwin, Scarlett Johansson. (PG, 88 min.)

Once again the title pretty much says it all. There's nothing you wouldn't expect (with the possible exception of live-action Hasselhoff) and everything you would: pernicious meddling by next-door nemesis Squidward (Bumpass); musical hijinks at Goofy Goober's Ice Cream Party Boat; and little bits of wry wit (and a decent soundtrack, with Wilco, Ween, the Flaming Lips, and much more). Is it good? Is it bad? Does it matter either way? Parents, prepare to be steamrolled by the SpongeBob merchandising juggernaut. Movies like this defy comment. They just soak up box-office clams as powerfully as our "absorbent and yellow and porous" hero. It's all relatively painless, and you may well appreciate the occasional yuks, but the experience will evaporate entirely on the ride home. Terribly young viewers will probably balk at

some of the content, yet school-aged kids will probably eat up this *SpongeBob* like a Goofy Goober Triple Gooberberry Sunrise. (11/19/04) – Marrit Ingman

★★ Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Highland, Westgate, Metropolitan, CM Barton Creek, Tinseltown North

TAXI

D: Tim Story; with Queen Latifah, Jimmy Fallon, Gisele Bündchen, Jennifer Esposito, Ann-Margret, Henry Simmons. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Very nearly as entertaining as watching a potato bake, this clueless remake of the 1998 Gerard Pires-directed/Luc Besson-produced French action comedy has precious little of either man's talent (although Besson, to his presumed woe, is saddled with an "original screenplay" credit). It proves, yet again, that comics (such as indie hipster Jimmy Fallon) who may be hilarious behind *Saturday Night Live*'s Weekend Update desk, tend to fare poorly when transposed to the big screen. *Taxi*'s only saving grace is its automotive mayhem, of which there is far too little. Any time taken up by the inane bantering of mismatched buddies Latifah and Fallon (who display a bizarre nonchemistry that borders on the toxic) is time wasted, and even easy-on-the-eyes Bündchen is given little to do other than strut around and make BMW 700s look even better than they do on the showroom floor. (10/15/04) – Marc Savlov

✶ Tinseltown South

TEAM AMERICA: WORLD POLICE

D: Trey Parker; with the voices of Trey Parker, Matt Stone, Kristen Miller, Daran Norris, Elle Russ, Stanley G. Sawicki, Dian Bachar, Phil Hendrie. (R, 98 min.)

Team America continues Parker and Stone's tradition of juvenile yet compellingly smart humor, heavy on the sex gags and parodies of everyone from liberal mouthpieces Sean Penn (who is not amused) to Tim Robbins (who may be amused, but then it's always been difficult to tell), and from North Korean leader Kim Jong Il to a variety of bearded, Middle Eastern terror types so broadly generic in their puppet portrayals as to have been lifted whole from the world of actioneering über-director Michael Bay and producer Jerry Bruckheimer. Despite the many clever and outright hilarious broadsides, *Team America* feels somewhat less than the sum of its parts – there are occasional downtimes that are only briefly enlivened by some very nasty (i.e., cool) puppet sex and mangled marionette bloodshed. There are too many gags that fall flat, and the strain of an all-marionette cast shows all too often. (10/15/04) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Metropolitan, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek

WHAT THE #\$! DO WE KNOW!?

D: Mark Vicente, Betsy Chasse, William Arntz; with Marlee Matlin, Elaine Hendrix, Robert Bailey Jr., Armin Shimerman, Barry Newman. (NR, 108 min.)

Part metaphysical treatise, part educational primer, and part dangerously goofy self-help manual for the New Age set, this bizarre and not unentertaining documentary strives mightily to teach the lay audience everything there is to know about quantum physics in 108 minutes. It employs a vertiginous collection of interviews with 14 members of the scientific (and, at times, devoutly unscientific) community, which are then intercut with a fictional narrative to underline and hammer home their points. There's plenty of good science wrapped up in this messily ambitious film; a number of the talking heads nattering on make genuinely interesting points regarding the very strange and very fascinating world of quantum science, but the film's intent is undercut by its far-too-daffy approach, which leaves it feeling something like an *ABC Afterschool Special* for the bastard offspring of mad scientists and California desert shamans. (09/10/04) – Marc Savlov

★★ Arbor

more film reviews online at

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Border Bandits

Border Bandits (2004)

D: Kirby Warnock. (NR, 58 min.)

Warnock relates this dark tale and a true Texas story about justice denied for immigrant workers in the Rio Grande Valley in 1915. Thirty years ago, Warnock's grandfather told the story of witnessing the murder of two Mexican-Americans, who were shot in the back by Texas Rangers. This movie is an effort to set the record straight. Following the screening there will be a Q&A with UT professors Dr. Don Graham and Dr. Rolando Hinojosa-Smith, former press rep for the Texas Rangers Mike Cox, and the director. For more on the film see p.65 of this week's Screens section. @Alamo Drafthouse Village; Monday, 7pm.



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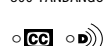
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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

REPERTORY & REVIVALS

Groundhog Day (1993) *D: Harold Ramis; with Bill Murray, Andie MacDowell, Chris Elliott, Stephen Tobolowsky. (PG, 103 min.)* This delightful romantic comedy is back ... again. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Thursday (12/2), Monday, 7pm; Tuesday, 9:45pm.

FILM SERIES & FESTIVALS

AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY: Besides Almodóvar, Other Spanish Directors:

Lovers of the Arctic Circle (1998) See p.98.

AUSTIN FILMWORKS:

Nudge 1.5: A Micro Digital Film Festival (2004) See p.100.

FLICKER FILM FESTIVAL:

Flicker Film Festival *D: Various. (NR)* This quarterly film festival showcases short films by local and national filmmakers who submit works via mail. Flicker guarantees an array of projects and intriguing juxtapositions at every screening, with linear narratives butting up against radical experiments, polished productions followed by earnest first efforts. All films are under 15 minutes in length and originate on film. This month's program includes films by attending local filmmakers: Jeremy Dean, Carolyn London, David Powell, Josh McKnight, Roger Beebe, Tom Barndt, and Lori Surfer. (See www.flickeraustin.com for info and directions, or austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2001-07-20/screens_feature.html.) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Thursday (12/9), 9:45pm.

FOLEYVISION:

Santa vs. Satan (1959) *D: René Cardona, K. Gordon Murray; with José Elías Moreno, Cesáreo Quezadas, José Luis Aguirre. (NR, 95 min.)* In Foleyvision, new sound effects, music, and dialogue are dubbed in over the original film – and performed live. The title of this one pretty much says it all. (See austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2002-05-17/screens_feature.html for more info). @Alamo Drafthouse Village; Sunday, 7pm, 9:45pm.

I LUV VIDEO & SPIDER HOUSE:

Marooned in Iraq (2002) *D: Bahman Ghobadi; with Shahab Ebrahimi, Faegh Mohamadi, Allah-Morad Rashtian, Rojan Hosseini. (NR, 108 min.)* With the competing sounds of jet planes and boom-boxes, *Marooned in Iraq* is a mordantly funny road

movie by the director of *A Time for Drunken Horses* and the upcoming *Turtles Can Fly*. @Spider House; Thursday (12/2), 9pm; free.

MUSIC MONDAYS:

A Hard Day's Night (1964) *D: Richard Lester; with John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Wilfrid Branbell. (NR, 85 min.)* This first Beatles movie turned the British Invasion into a virtual stampede. Where a pop star like Elvis churned out silly movies with phony plots, props, and pretense, the Beatles came along and made a movie in which they played simply hyperbolic versions of themselves and their lives of newfound celebrity. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Monday, 9:45pm; \$1.

TEXAS DOCUMENTARY TOUR:

Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey *D: Steven M. Martin. (PG-13, 85 min.)* This fascinating documentary about the life of Leon Theremin is wilder than anything a storyteller might have imagined. The Russian-born Theremin was an electronics genius who invented the strange contraption that became the world's first electronic musical instrument. (Named after him, the theremin is that eerie-sounding instrument that Hollywood has used to good effect for its ethereal "ooooo-eeeeee-ooooo" sound.) *Theremin* is a blend of great subject matter and a well-told story and, furthermore, proves that sometimes things are stranger than fiction. Following the screening will be a special performance by the Austin Theremonic Orchestra. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Tuesday, 7pm; \$4 AFS members and students, \$6 nonmembers.

UNIVERISTY OF TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF RADIO-TV-FILM:

East Austin Stories Documentary Series (2004) See p.98.

WEIRD WEDNESDAYS:

She Demons (1958) *D: Richard E. Cunha; with Irish McCalla, Tod Griffin, Victor Sen Yung, Rudolph Anders. (NR, 77 min.)* A mad Nazi scientist does human experiments on a remote island. (For more on the Weird Wednesdays series see austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2001-02-16/screens_feature.html or www.drafthouse.com.) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Wednesday, 12mid; free.

OTHER SCREENINGS

Border Bandits (2004) See p.100.

Buffy Sing-Along The Alamo is taking two of the most original episodes from TV's *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* – the silent episode "Hush" and the musical episode "Once More With Feeling" – and showing them back to back, and filling the night with trivia games, goodie bags, and a special interactive show that includes sing-alongs, yelling at the characters onscreen, drinking games, and more. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Thursday (12/9), 12mid.

Halo Havoc Decide Austin's greatest *Halo 2* athlete through weekly competition. For more info see www.drafthouse.com. @Alamo Drafthouse Village; Saturday, 12mid.

Napoleon Dynamite With Pedro (Efren Ramirez) in Attendance (2004) *D: Jared Hess; with Jon Heder, Jon Gries, Aaron Ruell, Efren Ramirez, Diedrich Bader, Tina Majorino. (PG, 82 min.)* Pedro (Efren Ramirez), the best friend of America's nerd sensation Napoleon Dynamite, will appear at the Alamo to join in the dance-offs, glamour photos, Tater Tots, and look-alike contests that will accompany the movie. Vote for Pedro. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Thursday (12/2), 9:45pm, 12mid; Friday, Saturday, 12mid.

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin Rocky Horror fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. Now, since the Discount Cinema 8 has closed, they'll be doing it in a new location. For more info see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village; Saturday, 12mid.

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See www.drafthouse.com for details. @Alamo Drafthouse Village; Friday, 12mid.

HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER:

Shrek 2 (2004) *D: Andrew Adamson, Kelly Asbury, Conrad Vernon; with the voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz, Julie Andrews, Antonio Banderas, John Cleese, Rupert Everett, Jennifer Saunders. (PG, 92 min.)* It isn't always easy being green. See the movie and partake in a guided discussion afterward. (*) @Human Potential Center; Saturday, 7pm; free.

IMAX THEATRE:

Bugs! 3-D: A Rainforest Adventure (2003) *D: Mike Slee; narrated by Judi Dench. (NR, 40 min.)* Little Borneo bugs become big, three-dimensional insects through the powers of this IMAX spectacle. The sight of these minuscule creatures blown up to some 250,000 times their normal size is quite amazing to witness. However, the film anthropomorphizes a green mantis and a butterfly to show viewers their life cycles and winds up turning the movie into a kid-friendly animal story rather than a more scientific or artistically rooted film. (For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com.) @IMAX Theatre; 1pm, 6pm.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. The film won't do anything to bust the tried-and-true stereotypes about native Texans or the state's history, but here in Texas we tend to like it that way. (For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com.) @IMAX Theatre; Thursday (12/2)-Thursday, 10am.

KGSR:

Lennon Tribute: A Hard Day's Night With Dung Beatles (1964) *D: Richard Lester; with John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, Ringo Starr, Wilfrid Branbell. (NR, 85 min.)* Beatlemania galore on the anniversary of John Lennon's death. First the movie, then the Dung Beatles perform scatological parodies of Beatles classics @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Wednesday, 9:45pm.

MR. SINUS:

Mr. Sinus Christmas Show *(NR)* In a now-annual tradition, the Mr. Sinus crew hurl their best zingers at favorite holiday movies and TV specials. Some old bits from the past two years are mixed with lots of new material. Milk and cookies will be served. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown; Friday, Saturday, 7pm, 9:45pm; Sunday, 6pm, 8:45pm; Thursday (12/9), 7pm, 9:45pm.



KIDS

FREE FAMILY FLICKS:

Elf (2003) D: Jon Favreau; with Will Ferrell, James Caan, Zooey Deschanel, Mary Steenburgen, Edward Asner, Bob Newhart, Daniel Tay, Faizon Love, Amy Sedaris, Peter Dinklage. (PG, 95 min.) E-I-f spells f-u-n. (*) @Westgate; Saturday, 10am; free. @Lakeline; Saturday, 10am; free.

Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius (2001) D: John A. Davis; with the voices of Debi Derryberry, Patrick Stewart, Martin Short, Andrea Martin, Megan Cavanagh, Mark DeCarlo, Jeff Garcia. (G, 83 min.) The animation is perhaps a bit below the bar, but *Neutron* is a genial, inoffensive treat – and bonus points for evening out the Top 40 soundtrack with the Ramones and the Go-Go's. – *Kimberley Jones* (*) @Westgate; Saturday, 10am; free. @Lakeline; Saturday, 10am; free.

special screenings online at
austinchronicle.com/film

"The documentary offers a first-hand account of the killings."
Ralph Blumental, *The New York Times*
"Tells all our stories, even those parts we'd rather leave out."
Alejandro Perez, *San Antonio Current*



Discussion to follow screening with the filmmaker, Kirby Warnock and Dr. Don Graham, J. Frank Dobie Chair, UT-Austin
For more information visit alamodraffthous.com or bigbendquarterly.com

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-Phillip Wurtch, DALLAS MORNING NEWS

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SCISSOR SISTERS

LA ZONA ROSA, SUNDAY 5

Chances are the majority of folks didn't know the Scissor Sisters when they opened for the B-52's at SXSW this year. Since then, everything's changed on the strength of the New York quintet's flamboyant single, "Take Your Mama."

"It's an accepting aesthetic," says bassist/keyboardist Babydaddy, who formed the band with singer Jake Shears in 2001. "We talk about the life we see. What we're doing is universal, and that includes the shadier part of life. It's a queer sensibility mixed in with a pop sensibility."

The group, embraced by NYC's art scene, launched cabaret shows exuding a come-one, come-all vibe. The drag queens and fashionistas came out in force, which provided a springboard for the Scissor Sisters – gay slang for a lesbian sex act – to break into the mainstream.

"We were never above playing to housewives," asserts Babydaddy. "We're making it for them as much as we are for ourselves and our friends, because that's the kind of music that broke through to us."

Of course, being part of the mainstream and having a single that bears no small resemblance to classic Elton John invites somewhat undeserved comparisons to, well, Elton John.



"We're flattered but frustrated that it comes up so much. You can't hear it in most of our songs. But it's fine. We're huge fans, so it could be worse."

What about RuPaul?

"God bless her," he says. "She's paved a path we've walked down a few times. We wouldn't be here without the part she's played in popular culture."

– Melanie Haupt

Louisville's retro dance punkers VHS or Beta open.

Rita Coolidge Holiday Show

ONE WORLD THEATRE, SUNDAY 5

With her sultry voice and a string of hits, Rita Coolidge is a welcome star in the December sky. Returning to One World, she brings those chart-toppers ("Higher and Higher," "The Way You Do the Things You Do"), holiday favorites, and even the Westlake High School Madrigal Choir. Expect a performance of "Amazing Grace" sung in Cherokee to honor the two-time Grammy winner's Native American heritage.

– Margaret Moser

Rob Halverson's Earchostra

CD Release CACTUS CAFE, MONDAY 6

Another one of Austin's undersung singer-songwriters, Rob Halverson celebrates the release of his second solo CD, *Second Whirled*. The disc picks up where his outstanding *Little Whirled of Sound* left off, but cranks the blues-inspired tracks up to tighter and often louder levels. The lineup includes strings, horns, a swingin' rhythm section, and a choir helmed by Austin's own Abra Moore, all part of a 15-member collective that will breathe life into Halverson's latest creation.

– Christopher Hess

RJD2, Lyrics Born

THE PARISH, MONDAY 6 & TUESDAY 7

Tweaking turntables, samplers, and laptops into an array of subtle funk, RJD2 is a hip-hop instrumentalist of the highest order. The Cincinnati native expresses an affinity for Sixties psychedelia on his most recent Def Jux album, *Since We Last Spoke*. More so a cartoon character come to life than a mere MC, Lyrics Born has been laughing all the way to the bank lately, with his song "Callin' Out" featured in recent Diet Coke and Motorola commercials. Diplo of Hollertronix adds further flavor to the mix.

RJD2



– Robert Gabriel

Austin Theremonic Orchestra

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN, WEDNESDAY 8

Six theremin players and one theremin documentary make for a don't-miss night of keeping Austin weird. After the Austin Film Society screening of *Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey*, Doug

RECOMMENDED EVENTS FOR DEC. 2-9 | EDITED BY DARCIE STEVENS

SOUNDCHECK BY DARCIE STEVENS

DOLLY PARTON

Frank Erwin Center, Thursday 2

The country/bluegrass pixie takes the arena stage with the Grascals.

CENTRO-MATIC, GRAND CHAMPEEN

The Parish, Friday 3

Will Johnson's rockers spin epic yarns after local shredders Grand Champeen.

KEVIN FOWLER

Travis County Expo Center, Friday 3

Fowler lassos Loose, Loud & Crazy country for the Ice Bats.

TRIBUTE TO CLIFTON CHENIER

Antone's, Saturday 4

The king of zydeco is celebrated by his son C.J.

STINGERS ATX

Flamingo Cantina, Saturday 4

Local rocksteady sixpiece celebrates its fifth birthday with Los Skamales.

LENI STERN

Elephant Room, Saturday 4

Acclaimed jazz singer Stern sways with Brannen Temple *When Evening Falls*.



Dolly Parton

JUDITH OWEN & HARRY SHEARER

Saxon Pub, Monday 6

Señor Simpsons/Spinal Tap joins wife Owen for the holidays.

THE DAMNWELLS

Stubb's, Tuesday 7

Bastards of the Beat after the Shore.

JAPANATHER, TUXEDO KILLERS

Beerland, Thursday 9

New York's Japanther freak out after local kindred spirits Tuxedo Killers don their skivvies.

VOODOO GLOW SKULLS

Stubb's, Thursday 9

Punk, pop, and Go Betty Go, with Big D & the Kids Table.

live music VENUES ▶ p.108

CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows ▶▶ p.110

Ferguson's electric sextet plies its trade downtown as the Austin Theremonic Orchestra. This is much more difficult than it looks. If your only familiarity with the gadget is through the Polyphonic Spree, it's time someone taught you a high-frequency lesson.

– Darcie Stevens

U.S. Maple EMO'S, THURSDAY 9

Listening to U.S. Maple is like eating an entire bowl of raw cookie dough and following it with a shot of Robitussin. Songs fragment and congeal with nuclear clarity, twisting and tearing the coarse fabric of melody and structure. In other words, listening to U.S. Maple challenges every fiber of your being with its complexity and irreverence, demonstrated on new Drag City disc *Purple on Time*. Local rockers America Is Waiting, Attack Formation, and Good Times Crisis Band open.

– Audra Schroeder

Gretchen Phillips

RUTA MAYA HQ, THURSDAY 9

Gretchen Phillips is one of Austin's remaining "lezzie-rock" (her words, not mine) pioneers, having steered such groups as Girls in the Nose and Two Nice Girls through the choppy waters of this town's lesbian scene. She's made a national leap with her latest, a partnership with NYC's David Driver on *Togetherness* (Bar/None), a genre-bending foray into bringing honest discussions about sexuality – all sexuality – to the fore. 7pm.

– Melanie Haupt

IN-STORES

Friday: **Tony Masarati, Dao Strom**, the **Ugly Beats**, **Rudolph Llanes**, Cheapo Discs, 5pm

Saturday: **Manikin**, the **Winks**, **Video Screams**, Sound on Sound, 7pm

Thursday: **Japanther**, **Tuxedo Killers**, **Assacre**, Sound on Sound, 7pm

Young Heart Attack

RED EYED FLY, FRIDAY 3

Young Heart Attack's *Mouthful of Love* wasn't just one of 2004's great rock albums, it could've been the last great rock album of 1979. They're Austin's Darkness, if only the Darkness believed in a thing called songwriting. This rare hometown gig will test



songs from their forthcoming sophomore album: more variations on three chords and a brighter spotlight on Jennifer Stephen, the X-factor breaking up Frenchie's boys' club with Motown sassiness. The Rockland Eagles and Sweethearts open.

– Andy Langer

Rebirth Brass Band

STUBB'S, FRIDAY 3

New Orleans' consummate brass band comes around every so often, last seen in September at ACL Fest. If you missed them there – were you doing the "Pressure Drop" with Toots? – here's a prime opportunity for a dose of blasting tuba and squealing trumpet from new release *Rebirth for Life* in a much more intimate setting. Do bring your earplugs and party hat, but don't worry if you don't have rhythm. Rebirth has enough for everyone.

– Darcie Stevens

Spoon EMO'S, SATURDAY 4

The dark days are almost over, seeing as Spoon's intensely anticipated fifth album is almost here. In honor of this, Austin's favorite indie pop tarts are debuting tunes from the new album in a rare home gig. Punk rockers Ignorance Park kick things off, while Dead Whale Tide provides the creamy filling for this all-Austin, all-boy show on the outdoor stage. Inside, L.A.'s Ill Lit reconstructs the ambient "folktronica" that turned heads on their recent *I Need You*.

– Melanie Haupt



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CAROLYN WONDERLAND 11 

JAKE ANDREWS 8

SPECIAL EARLY SHOW

SUNDAY DECEMBER 5 / \$5

MARY WELCH Y LOS CURANDEROS 10

SON DE REY 11:30

CERRONATO 8:30

GUSTAVO RODRIGUEZ 7

MONDAY DECEMBER 6

UT ETHNOMUSICOLOGY ENSEMBLES 8-12

TUESDAY DECEMBER 7 / \$5

PATRICE PIKE 8 

GINGER LEIGH 10

APHID 12

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 8 / \$5

JADE DAY 8

WENDY COLONNA 9:30

BRIAN KEANE 11

JOY DAVIS 12:30

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WED 12.8 **MALCONTENT PARTY**
MAY DAY
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HEAD PANIC 7pm: The Bearded Clam Diggers

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12.12 The Ton Chicken 12.17 Grand Champen, W/ Cap'n Travls

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DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & SPIDER LILY

TUE lesbian night DEC 7
SAPPHO'S ISLE
DJ AMERYKAH

WED DJs ARGO & SPIDER LILY DEC 8
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alternative 80's & old school goth

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we 8 **Tuna Helpers, World**
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Japanther, Tuxedo Killers,
Video Screams, Assacre

th 9 **KVRK Benefit**
This Microwave World, Single
Frame, Dead Whale Tide

fr 10 **Punk Rock Prom- AMN Benefit**
Winks, Sweethearts, Lo-Fives
711 1/2 Red River 479-ROCK
beerlandtexas.com

“a week to remember”

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info: www.812souvenirs.com



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MUSIC

BEERLAND, 711 1/2 Red River, 479-ROCK
BIG DAVE'S, 1113 RR 620 N., Lakeway, 512/266-2279
BOATHOUSE GRILL, 6812 RR 620 N., 249-5200
BOOMERZ, 6148 Hwy. 290 W., 892-3373
BOOTS NIGHT CLUB, 1186 Hwy. 95, Bastrop,
 512/321-3030
'BOUT TIME, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339
BROKEN SPOKE, 3201 S. Lamar, 442-6189
BROWN BAR, 201 W. Eighth, 480-8330
CACTUS CAFE, Texas Union, UT campus, 475-6515
CAFE MUNDI, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634
CANARY HUT PUB, 11005 Burnet Rd., 837-7117
THE CANARY ROOST, 11900 Metric, 836-6360
CAROUSEL LOUNGE, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790
CEDAR STREET, 208 W. Fourth, 495-9669
CHARLIE'S, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481
CHEAPO DISCS, 914 N. Lamar, 477-4499
CHEATHAM STEAK WAREHOUSE, 119 Cheatham,
 San Marcos, 512/353-3777
CHEZ ZEE, 5406 Balcones, 454-2666
CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST, 209 Pedernales,
 220-1558
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB, 9926 Circle, 301-4661
COFFEE CREATOR, 9402 Parkfield Dr., 719-4544
COMMON INTEREST, 8440 Burnet Rd., 453-6796
CONTINENTAL CLUB, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444
COOL RIVER CAFE, 4001 Parmar, 835-0010
COPA BAR & GRILL, 217 Congress, 479-5002
COTTON CLUB, 212 E. Davilla, Granger, 512/859-0700
CUBA LIBRE, 409 Colorado, 472-2822
CURRA'S GRILL, 614 E. Oltorf, 444-0012
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN, 1 Woodcreek Circle,
 Wimberley, 512/847-5950
D&L'S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE, 1321 S. Congress,
 445-4441
DALE'S ESSENHAUS, 3900 FM 972, Walburg,
 512/819-9175
DAN MCKLUSKY'S, 301 E. Sixth, 473-8924
DONN'S DEPOT, 1600 W. Fifth, 478-0336
DOÑA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN BAR & GRILL,
 101 San Jacinto, 478-2520
THE DRINK, 325 E. Sixth, 236-0050
THE DRISKILL, 604 Brazos, 474-5911
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE, 301 E. Fifth,
 472-1860
EGO'S, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE, 1302 S. First,
 477-7445
EL SOL Y LA LUNA, 1224 S. Congress, 444-7770
ELEMENT, 301 W. Fifth, 480-9888
ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586
FABO, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE, 605 Brazos, 478-3473
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIP'S SATELLITE CAFE, 7101 Hwy. 71 W., 301-1883
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd.,
 322-9750
FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 2700 West Anderson
 302-5470
THE FOUNDATION, 307 W. Fifth, 472-5288
FOX & HOUND, 401 Guadalupe, 494-1200
FRANK ERWIN CENTER, 1701 Red River, 471-7744
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
GALAXY CAFE, 9911 Brodie Ln. #750, 233-6000
GIDDY UP'S, 12010 Manchaca, 280-4732
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd.
 458-1813
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GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL, 2401 W. Howard, 255-8003
GREEN MESQUITE, 1400 Barton Springs Rd., 479-0481
GREEN MESQUITE BBQ S., 7010 Hwy. 71, 288-8300
GRUENE HALL, 1601 Hunter, New Braunfels,
 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077
GUADALAJARA RESTAURANT & CANTINA, 1525
 Cypress Creek, 219-5244
GUERO'S TACO BAR, 1412 S. Congress, 447-7688
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main, Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE, 800 Congress,
 477-8968
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HILLTOP TAVERN, 5996 Hwy. 21, Maxwell,
 512/357-6731
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IDLEWILD RESTAURANT, 15395 RR 12, Wimberley,
 512/847-0430

IRON CACTUS NORTH, 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778
JACK'S BACKYARD, 6901 N. I-35, 451-5008
JO'S HOT COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOE'S GENERIC, 315 E. Sixth, 480-0171
JOHNNY FINN, 16405 Clara Van Trail, 266-2811
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 477-7825
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LONGBRANCH INN, 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
LUDWIG'S, 217-B W. Fourth, 494-1150
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MIDTOWN LVE, 7408 Cameron, 451-5483
MOMOS, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MOON RIVER, 58000 RR 2322, 264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MOXIE AND THE COMPOUND, 2120 Oxford, 441-6699
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NAT'S PUB, Lakeway Plaza, Lakeway, 512/263-2855
NORTH BY NORTHWEST, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy., 467-6969
NUEVO LEON RESTAURANT, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S NIGHTCLUB, 9428 Parkfield, 833-5133
THE OFFICE LOUNGE, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-1137
ONE TWO ONE, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121
ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500
OSLO, 301 W. Sixth, 480-9433
THE PALLADIUM, 13800 Dragline, 989-7450
PARAMOUNT THEATRE, 713 N. Congress, 472-5470
PARDNERS, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 478-6372
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PEDRO'S PLACE, 1601 Guadalupe, 472-2369
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
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THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RAGGEDY ANNE'S, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy., 251-9647
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE, 1321 W. Second, Taylor, 512/352-7993
RED EYED FLY, 715 Red River, 474-1084
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
REDRUM, 501 E. Sixth, Ste. B, 275-6575
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RIVERBEND CENTRE, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9416
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ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
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ROY'S AUSTIN, 340 E. Second, 391-1500
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE, 208-D W. Fourth, 478-7222
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SAHARA NIGHTCLUB, 900 E. Braker #170, 228-1940
SAKE ON SIXTH, 621 E. Sixth, 478-8788
SALT LICK 360, 3801 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 328-4957
SAMPAJO'S, 2809 San Jacinto, 469-9988
SARADOA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM, 101 E. Main, Round Rock, 512/310-1200
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SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
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SIDEKICKS XTREME, 110 E. Riverside, 804-2707, 947-2594
SKY LOUNGE, 416 Congress, 477-3151
SOUND ON SOUND, 106 E. North Loop, 371-9980
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
STARKS COFFEE, 6539 N. Lamar, 377-3334
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
SWERVE COFFEE LOUNGE, 2310 S. Lamar, 444-1000
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
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TRAVIS COUNTY EXPO CENTER, 9100 Decker Lake Rd., 919-3000
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TRIUMPH CAFE, 3808 Spicewood Springs, 343-1875
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
THE VIBE, 508 E. Sixth, 474-0632
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 542-0098
VUE, 416 Congress, Upstairs, 477-3151
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERTANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WHISKY BAR, 303 W. Fifth, 481-8599
Y RESTAURANT & BAR, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
YOGI'S, 306 S. Main, Buda, 512/750-7300
ZETIJA'S GRILL, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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Sat 4
Doug Burr
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Tues **Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory** 8pm

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thurs 9 - Blu / Chris Kiemling's Comedy Night
fri 10 - the Hudson's / Colin Gilmore
sat 11 - Matt the Electrician / A.J. Roach

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Two High String Band
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Fri Dec 3
an evening with Austin's own
Darden Smith
special guest ★ Robyn Ludwick

Sat Dec 4
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Sun Dec 6
CD Release
Rob Halverson's Earchostria
free show ★ 8:30pm

Tue Dec 7
Live at the Cactus ★ CD release
J.I. Van Zandt
8:30pm
POSTPONED

Wed, Thur & Fri, Dec 8, 9 & 10
Three Big Nights!
Slaid Cleaves
Wed ★ w/guest L. Hayes Carl
Thur ★ 8:30pm
Fri ★ w/guest Lori McKenna ★ 9pm

Sat Dec 11
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The Hills of Home
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Tix at HEB & Erwin Center
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Sun Dec 12
CD release party
RADNEY FOSTER
8pm

Mon Dec 13
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8 1/2 Souvenirs
8pm

Tue Dec 14
Tosca String Quartet
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★ Coming Thur Jan 13 ★
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1/19 ★ Vance Gilbert 2/5 ★ Bejaumont
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1/22 ★ Beckless Kelly's 2/19 ★ Eddie from Ohio
chip off the old block 2/24 & 25 ★ Bob Schneider
1/26 ★ Jim Lauderdale 2/26 ★ Terri Hendrix
1/28 ★ Merrit Montgomery

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union Building.
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It Always Will Be

3) LOS LONELY BOYS
Los Lonely Boys

4) ROBERT EARL KEEN
Live From Austin

5) BOB SCHNEIDER
I'm Good Now

6) CHARLIE ROBISON
Good Times

7) PATTY GRIFFIN
Impossible Dream

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Genuine Austin Christmas

9) VARIOUS ARTISTS
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10) VARIOUS ARTISTS
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ARTISTS MARKET
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12/5

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FEATURING:
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1:15 BLUE DIAMOND SHINE
FEATURING BONNY HOLMES
2:15 THE ERIC HISAW BAND
3:15 AMY ATCHLEY
4:15 COOPER'S UNCLE
5:15 BLUE YODEL
6:15 THE LEGHOUNDS
7:15 WALTER TRAGERT
8:15 MATT POWELL
9:15 THE SETH WALKER BAND

mo
12/6

9PM **DALLAS AT SEATTLE**
ON OUR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SCREENS

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12/7

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MEASURING AUSTIN'S IQ ONE PINT AT
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12/8

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7:30PM NO COVER, NO ENTRY FEE, NO REASON
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"THE REASON"

SUN DECEMBER 5

lostprophets
LIVE IN CONCERT
Vendetta X Red

SAT DECEMBER 11

calendar MUSIC

club LISTINGS

Thu 02

1920S CLUB Margaret Wright (8:30)
311 CLUB Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine
& Lynn (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT John
Vandiver Tribute w/ Shake Russell,
Dana Cooper
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Karaoke w/
Stormy
ANTONE'S Jane Bond, Sue Foley
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Michael Austin &
Chris Gage
B.D. RILEY'S PUB Zak Perry
BACK ROOM Forgetting April,
Magically Delicious Smoking Skunk
Monkey, the Big Nasty
BEERLAND Jolly Garogers
BOOMERZ Jamie
BOOTS NIGHT CLUB Karaoke
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff
Hughes
BROWN BAR Trey Lopez (10:00)
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Karen Poston &
the Crystal Pistols, Sunny Sweeney
& the Boys
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickey (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
Hayes Carll, Randy Rogers Band
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Grady (12mid)
COOL RIVER CAFE SoundTrack
(8:30)
COTTON CLUB The Manuel Bros.
(7:30)
CURRA'S GRILL Bruce Jones & the
Monotones (7:00)
D&S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE Slim
Richey (8:00)
DALE'S ESSENHAUS Karaoke
(7:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
DOÑA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN
BAR & GRILL New Cycle (8:00)
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Bobby Doyle (7:30)
EGO'S Braless Night, Jesse Dayton
(8:30)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani

ELEPHANT ROOM Jacinta (6:00),
Steve Geraci Quartet (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mend, Tin Moth, Patterns
Form
EMO'S Outside: Gigalithic &
Dumpster Bill, Azatat & Cell,
Kapsule, Jahflex, CMA: Grouch &
Luckyiam PSC, Inside: Oh, Beast!,
Les Georges Leningrad, Bobby
Conn
FLAMINGO CANTINA Rokka Tone, 5
Ton Chicken, Ghandia
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Jason
Bales, Nick Ginby (8:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FOX & HOUND Bo Reynolds & Woody
Russell
FRANK ERWIN CENTER The
Grascals, Dolly Parton
FRIENDS Texcellorators (7:30)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON Dale Watson
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Rusty Wier &
Michael Ballew
GÜERO'S TACO BAR The Go-Getters
(6:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke (8:00)
HEADHUNTERS Misspent Youth, Eric
Tessmer
HILL'S CAFE Texas Radio
HOLE IN THE WALL Elizabeth
McQueen & the Firebrands (10:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Mark Rubin & His
Ridgetop Syncopators, Hollis Webb
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan w/
Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Don
Harvey, and Mark Andes (6:00),
Wideawake (9:30)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Radio
Sweetheart, Opposite Day
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Slim
Richey's Dream Band (7:00)
MOMOS Rachel Loy, Damesviolet,
IlCamino, Building G (8:00)
MOON RIVER Acoustic Night (7:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Thomas "Doc"
Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Matt
Dunham
NUNO'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic w/
Greg Kettler, Hydrid
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/
Big Al
ONE 2 ONE John Napier (9:00)
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Del Castillo,
Los Lobos (8:00)

**DUE TO OUR ABBREVIATED
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE, PLEASE
NOTE THE FOLLOWING
DEADLINES:**

**FRIDAY, DEC. 24, ISSUE:
DEADLINE, FRIDAY, DEC. 17
(SEND LISTINGS FOR DEC.
23-30)**

**FRIDAY, DEC. 31, ISSUE:
DEADLINE, THURSDAY, DEC.
23 (SEND LISTINGS FOR
DEC. 30-JAN. 6)**

**PLEASE SEND ANY NEW
YEAR'S EVE LISTINGS ASAP.**

*Acts are chronologically
listed. Schedules are subject
to change, so please call
clubs to confirm lineup.
Times are given where
known and are PM unless
otherwise noted.*

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS:
Club listings deadline is
Monday, 9am, for that
week's issue, published on
Thursday. Send venue
name, address, phone
number, acts, and times to:
Club Listings, PO Box
49066, Austin, TX 78765;
fax 458-6910; phone
454-5766 x159; or e-mail
citybeat@austinchronicle.com.

**LISTINGS ARE FREE AND
ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-
AVAILABLE BASIS.**

THE PARISH Two Gallants, Pleasant
Grove, Baptist Generals, Milton
Mapes (9:00)

PLUSH DJ Phytteen
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Bear & the
Essentials (10:00)

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Al
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE Karaoke w/
WCM

RED EYED FLY Keefrider, the Guest

roadshows

December

thu 2
Dana Cooper, Shake Russell,
Alice's Restaurant
Sue Foley, Antone's
Hayes Carll, Cheatham Street
Warehouse
CMA: Grouch & Luckyiam
PSC, Kapsule, Gigalithic &
Dumpster Bill, Emo's
Dolly Parton, the Grascals,
Frank Erwin Center
Los Lobos, Paramount Theatre
Baptist Generals, Pleasant
Grove, **Two Gallants**, the
Parish
Ely Guerra, Stubb's
'LIX, Texas French Bread
fri 3
Two Tons of Steel, Cheatham
Street Warehouse
Realicide, Church of the
Friendly Ghost
Deke Dickerson, Ego's
Lot 6, Emo's
Red Reverse, Headhunters

see **austinchronicle.com**
for complete listings

Diane Schuur,
One World Theatre
Rebirth Brass Band, Stubb's
The Unbearables, Trophy's
Big Wu, the Vibe
sat 4
C.J. Chenier, Antone's
Sean Reefer & the Resin
Valley Boys, Beerland
Johnny A., Cactus Cafe
Fabulous Folschensklion,
Church of the Friendly Ghost
Chris Cogburn, Church of the
Friendly Ghost
Leni Stern, Elephant Room
Ill Lit, Emo's
Los Skarnales,
Flamingo Cantina
Hairy Apes BMX, the Parish
All Else Failed, Ed Gein,
Redrum
the John Sparrow, Trophy's
sun 5
Olivia Block, Arthouse at the
Jones Center
Scissor Sisters, VHS or
Beta, La Zona Rosa
Rita Coolidge, One World
Theatre
As You Wish, Redrum

mon 6
RJD2, Lyrics Born, Diplo,
the Parish
Plastik Lies, Redrum
Judith Owen & Harry Shearer,
Saxon Pub

tue 7
Owen, the Snake, the Cross,
the Crown, **Despistado,**
Emo's
Plastik Lies, Flamingo Cantina
The Hates, Headhunters
RJD2, Lyrics Born, the Parish
The Damnwells, Stubb's

wed 8
New American Standard,
Redrum
Mayday, Room 710

thu 9
Japanther, Beerland
Vendetta Red, Emo's
Kidnap Soundtrack, Flamingo
Cantina
Amy Steinberg, Ruta Maya
Japanther, Sound on Sound
Voodoo Glow Skulls, Go
Betty Go, Stubb's

Central Market show times:
6:30 - 9pm
Free Live Music on the Patio

Central Park
under the oaks

Westgate
under the moon tower

FRIDAY DECEMBER 3

Dale Watson

honky-tonk

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4

Son Y No Son

cuban

FRIDAY DECEMBER 10

Clover Tango

tango

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11

Eric Hokkan

fiddle on fire

FRIDAY DECEMBER 3

Carnaval Mystique

jazz

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4

Phillip Gibbs

songwriter

FRIDAY DECEMBER 10

Ernie Durawa

jazz

SATURDAY DECEMBER 11

Eggbo

songwriter

Albert & Gage
Friday, December 17
X-mass Extravaganza
Blowouts of guests!
Saturday, December 18

Seth Walker
Friday, December 31
Vengo
Saturday, January 1

Upcoming Don't Miss Shows!
under the oaks
@4001 North Lamar

Call 512-206-1000 for details
Central Park

40th & N. Lamar
café open 7AM-9PM Sunday-Thursday
7AM-10PM Friday and Saturday
free music • great food
covered patio • kids playscape

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Westgate

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café open 7AM-10PM every day
store open 9AM-9PM every day
free music • great food
covered patio • plenty of parking

JONNY LANG

The
**Acoustic
Band**
Tour 2005



photo: Ashley Johnson

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22 @ 8 PM

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RETRO
THURSDAYS

featuring Texas Top Retro DJ

Def M

and Craig Brunkenhoefer

No Cover - doors at 9pm

Release Fridays

with National and International DJs every week (downstairs)
Hip-Hop and Dance Classics (upstairs) with Abe the Assassin

friday dec. 3

Matthew Bandy (Denver), **Don Tinsley** (St. Louis), **DJ MES** (San Francisco)
Southern Roots featuring **Coy West & Steve Balance** of Austin

friday dec. 10

D:FUSE & Johnny Invisible - benefiting Operation Blue Santa and
the Austin Area Food Bank (accepting donations of Toys and Food)

friday dec. 17

RUBEN CARR - Producer of the hit remix of "A Forest" by the Cure,
also named best Armenian DJ in 2004

Doors Open at 9pm / \$7.00 Cover / Drink Specials All Night

Saturday Nights

Progressive Dance with **Craig Brunkenhoefer** (downstairs) and
Hip-Hop Dance with **Abe the Assassin** (upstairs)

Doors Open at 9pm / NO COVER before 11pm / \$2.00 Drinks

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On Sale December 10
Gourmet Food, Go-go Dancers
Champagne Toast, special guest
djs and hosts

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Saturday, December 4
NEMATOADS, BASIN STREET,

AARON FRANZ

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Hip-Hop with DJ Mel & Jah Mighty

Tuesdays

\$2 Pints & Free Pool

Wednesdays

\$6 Domestic Pitchers 8-11

Thursdays

\$1.75 Anheuser-Busch Bottles
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WOLFE

Thur 12/02 Radio
Sweetheart

Fri 12/03
11 Fingered Charlie

Sat 12/04
The Guest Animus
People Of Habit

Sun 12/05
Lomita

Mon 12/06
Jared Francis

Tues 12/07
The Tuna Helpers

Upcoming Shows:
12/9 Rickertick • 12/12 DISK DALE
12/14 (a-)machines 12/16 Rebecca Creek
12/17 Big Orange & The Word Association
12/18 Electric Mayhem Grad Nite Special

Every Wednesday
Electric Mayhem

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THURS 12-02 DOORS 8:30, 9 SHOW
GHANDAIA
5 TON CHICKEN
ROKKA TONE

FRI 12-03 DOORS 8:30, 9 SHOW
SOUNDBOARD PRESENTS
GROOVIN' GROUND
OPPOSITE DAY

SAT 12-04 SKA/PUNK DOORS 8:30, 9 SHOW
STINGERS
5 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
LOS SKARNALES
CAPTAIN BRINGDOWN & THE BUZZKILLERS

TUES 12-07 NON-SMOKING SHOW — OPEN MIC TIL 10:00
SHAKEY BEAN'S
OPEN MIC NITE
DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 SIGN-UP 7:09
FEATURING BEAN & CO.
LATER ON AT STARTING AT 10:00...

SLIDER, PLASTIK LIES
ETA CARINAE, MINUTES TO BURN

WEDS 12-08 HIP-HOP DOORS 8, 8:30 SHOW
MELODIC SCIENCE PRESENTS
SOUL EXPRESSION
DIRTY POLITICS (YOUNG NICK & POPI)
GLOBAL, V.G. SKILLS, ELEMENT, MIRAGE,
DJ TATS, KUNAL AND MORE

12/09 - consider the source, held underwater,
kiddo soundtrack, \$25 massacre, drag the lake
12/10 - theEnforcement, MAU MAU CHAPLAINS
12/11 - LARRY, portal all stars, peach truck republic
12/14 - a secular end, pompeii, jetsuna
12/15 - good boots, rockland eagles, dollyrots, & more

CHECK OUT

WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM

calendar

MUSIC

club LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM THURSDAY

REDRUM Vermicious Canids, Velvet

Brick, Black Earth, Hobbie

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB

Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley

(6:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke

ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo

(8:00)

ROOM 710 Flato Van Vleck, Bad

Rackets, the Ugly Beats, Blue

Flames, Faster Disaster

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Cotton

Inks

RUTA MAYA First Thursdaze w/

Leeann Atherton, Toni Price (8:00)

SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Jeff

Strange (10:00)

SAENGERHALL Open Mic w/ Gerald

Dennison & Sean Palen

SAKE ON SIXTH Karaoke w/ Nic-C,

Snaps

SALT LICK 360 Jazz Squares (6:00)

SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00),

Carolyn Wonderland, George

Devore (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Billy D

SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ

Def M

STARS COFFEE BDT (7:00)

STUBB'S Cooper's Uncle (6:30), Ely

Guerra (10:00)

T.C.'S LOUNGE Moving Blues

TX FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S

CLUBS Austin Swing Syndicate

Winter Formal: Monster Big Band

(9:00)

TEXAS FRENCH BREAD 'LIX (7:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Javier

Chaparro Jazz Violin Duo (7:30)

TROPHY'S Shawn Nelson & the

Ramblers, James Rider & the 4:20

Turnaround (9:00)

THE VIBE Golden Bear, Derbin,

Solarfuse

VUE DJ AM

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The

Hudsons (6:00)

Z'TEJAS GRILL Thomas Hughes &

Mike Malone (6:00)

219 WEST DJ Trace

311 CLUB Alan Haynes, Joe Valentine

& Lynn (8:30)

ALICE'S RESTAURANT Ky Hote,

Turtle Creek (9:00)

ANTONE'S Noelle Hampton, Reckless

Kelly (10:00)

APPLE BAR Jazztronica &

Cosmopolitan Grooves w/ DJ

Starsign (10:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE George Ensle

AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Acoustic

Happy Hour (6:00)

B.D. RILEY'S PUB Pubcrawler

BACK ROOM Tomorrow's Too Late,

Backlit Revolver, the Lifters, Broken

Teeth

BIG DAVE'S One Way Out (9:30)

BOATHOUSE GRILL Leghounds

(6:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks

BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow

BROWN BAR DJ Gray, Steven Ripley

(9:00)

CACTUS CAFE Robyn Ludwick,

Darden Smith

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Swingsters,

Mad Cowboys (6:00)

CEDAR STREET John Pointer (6:00),

T.U.B. (9:30)

CHEAPO DISCS Tony Masarati, Dao

Storm, the Ugly Beats, Rudolph

Lanes (5:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

Two Tons of Steel

CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST

Realicide (8:00)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)



The Austin Chronicle

Musicians Register

NOW ONLINE AT austinchronicle.com/musicreg

Online

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San Marcos, TX

LET'S GET HIGH-ROCKIN'
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Th 2	King Tears 6pm Centro-matic, Blackwater Gospel, New Roman Times 9pm
Fr 3	Callous Teaboyz 6pm Big Orange 9pm
Sa 4	Word Association 10pm
Su 5	Open Mic w/ Pat Rankratz & Holly Aiken
Mo 6	Molly Hayes 6pm Smarty Pants - Trivia Contest 8pm
Tu 7	Holly Aiken 6pm Attic Ted, Golden Arm Trio, Sudden Impulse Group 9pm
We 8	Fender & the Skirt Chasers 6pm Eta Carinae, Holding One, Eidelon 9pm
Th 9	RC Banks 6pm Hognose, Amplified Heat, More Fire 9pm
Fr 10	Zydeco Blanco 6pm Fluffers Union, The New Moons, Subtle Creeps 9pm
Sa 11	Heroes, Livin' Proof, Sensitivity Boosters 10pm

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SUNDAYS - TED HALL'S BLUES JAM

ALL INSTRUMENTS & VOCALISTS WELCOME

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WEDNESDAYS - OPEN MIC WITH RUSTY WIER

THURSDAY 12/2 - RUSTY WIER &

MICHAEL BALLEW

FRIDAY 12/3 - PROBABLE CAUSE

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LIVE Hip-hop, Funk & Soul African drum & dance troupe by East Side Artist Co-op

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COMING SOON 12/17-8 1/2 SOUVENIRS PLUS REDSTICK RAMBLERS

12/23-PAUL RAY & THE COBRAS

MONDAY, DEC 6
HAPPY HOUR PARIS '49
DALE WATSON AND THE LONESTARS 10:30PM

TUESDAY, DEC 7
HAPPY HOUR
TONI PRICE PLUS DOAK SHORT

WEDNESDAY, DEC 8
HAPPY HOUR
GARY CLARK JR.

THURSDAY, DEC 9
HAPPY HOUR
DENNY FREEMAN

FRIDAY, DEC 10
HAPPY HOUR
BLUES SPECIALISTS

SATURDAY, DEC 11
HAPPY HOUR
BOOZE WEASELS

SUNDAY, DEC 12
HAPPY HOUR
DAVID HOLT, JIMMY PETTIT AND DAVID MCCLARTY

Grady THE TREWS

THE HUSTLERS 10PM

LI'L CAP'N TRAVIS 12:30AM

DAMNATIONS 11PM

MY EDUCATION 12:30AM

GLASS FAMILY 11:30PM

THE ONLYS 10:30PM

SATURDAY RADAR 9:30PM

ANDREW DUPLANTIS AND THE UNFAITHFULS 9:30PM

CD RELEASE PARTY

3-7 REDD VOLKAERT 12AM

DUDGE ZEPPLIN 10PM

WEARY BOYS

KENNETH BRIAN SATURDAY, DEC 11

3-7 REDD VOLKAERT

BOOZE WEASELS

FEATURING **DAVID GRISSOM, DAVID HOLT, JIMMY PETTIT AND DAVID MCCLARTY**

Jane Bond

BIG BALLS WITH REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL

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NON-SMOKING HAPPY HOUR MONDAY

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Thursday, Dec. 2
THE BIG NASTY
MAGICALLY DELICIOUS
SMOKING SKUNK MONKEY
FORGETTING APRIL
\$2 High Life/Icehouse Pints, \$5.50 Lone Star Pitchers

Friday, Dec. 3
BROKEN TEETH
THE LIFTERS
BACKLIT REVOLVER
TOMORROW'S TOO LATE
(CD RELEASE PARTY!)

75C WELLS 8-10:30, \$5.50 BUD ICE PITCHERS ALWAYS

Saturday, Dec. 4 (8 pm)
HATCHETWORK
EXIT THE SUN (EX- HE KILL THREE)
DISTEMPERED (CD RELEASE PARTY!)

\$1 Icehouse/Lone Star Bottles, \$5.50 Bud Ice Pitchers

SUN., DEC. 5: \$1.75 BUD/BUD LT, \$5.50 COORS PITCHERS

Mon., Dec. 6
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL
3 BIG SCREENS! 25c Hot Dogs! 101X prizes!

TUE., DEC. 7: POOL TOURNAMENT
\$1.75 BUD/BUD LT, \$5.50 COORS PITCHERS

WED., 12/8: KARAOKE!
\$1.75 LONE STAR, \$5.50 ZIEGENBOCK PITCHERS

12/9: PRIME ELEMENT, FAT BACK CIRCUS, CURSE THE FORM

***DEC. 10**
LIT 101X
RIDDLIN' KIDS
THE MATCHES all ages

Dec. 11
VALUME NOB
featuring members of down, CROWBAR, BLACK LABEL SOCIETY, and GRAVEYARD RODEO
KRUM BUMS

***DECEMBER 16**
THE HEAVYWEIGHTS OF HARDCORE 2004
Hatebreed
sick of it all
TERROR
JED HAYD CHAOS
AND HATEBREED

Sun, Dec. 19 (all ages)
The 1st Annual "December to Remember"
AIR TIGHT ALIBI • FIRE KILLS
THUMBSCREW • THIS ESCAPE • OCEANUS
THE Y EQUALS • THE NOETIC

NEW YEAR'S EVE
BROKEN TEETH, BACKLIT REVOLVER
CHARTER BULLDOGS, JOLLY CAROGERS

***1/6: STRUNG OUT**
FEB. 16-18: INXS TRYOUTS
*** ADVANCE TIX AVAILABLE**

CASINO EL CAMINO
DAILY HAPPY HOUR!!!
4-7PM
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W Free Pizza
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club
LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM FRIDAY

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Andrew Duplantis CD Release, Li'l Cap'n Travis (9:30)

COOL RIVER CAFE Jawbreaker (9:45)

COPA BAR & GRILL Askh, Atash (8:00)

COTTON CLUB Mark Richey (8:30)
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Bobby Doyle (7:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

DOÑA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN BAR & GRILL Urbano Tango (9:00)

THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldzney (6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Tony Campise Trio (8:00)

EGO'S Li'l Bit & the Customatics, Deke Dickerson (8:30)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani

ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Trés (6:00), the Brew (9:30)

EMO'S Maplewood, Cub Country, Lot 6, Zykos

EVANGELINE CAFE Eve Monsees & the Exiles (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Opposite Day, Groovin' Ground (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Adam Carroll, James Deveney (9:00)

FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT Johnny Gonzales (5:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Probable Cause

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL The Pacers

GRUENE HALL Seth James (8:00)

HANOVER'S Doug Moreland

HEADHUNTERS 4205 Band, Red Reverse, Mr. Goody 2 Shoes, Natchet Taylor

HILL'S CAFE Wes Hayden

HOLE IN THE WALL The Guest, Ultrasonic (10:00)

JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)

JOVITA'S Flip & the Bird, Bill Kirchen (6:30)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim

LONGBRANCH INN UT Sustainable Building Benefit w/ Ryan Lauderdale, Shane Bartell

LUCKY LOUNGE Sounds Under Radio (8:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE No Chops in Judo, Shark Attack, Eleven Fingered Charlie

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (6:30)

MOMOS Fractious, Palm Trees of Venice, Dexter Freebish

MOON RIVER Bluez Burnerz (9:30)

MOTHER'S CAFE Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Byrd & Street (8:30)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Diane Schuur (7:00, 9:30)

OSLO DJ Kurv

THE PALLADIUM Vibe

PARDNERS DJ Dancin' Don (7:00)

THE PARISH New Roman Times, Grand Champeen, Centro-matic

PLUSH BLAKK w/ DJ J.A.M.O.N. (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Deryl Dodd & Mike Graham

THE PUB The Sevvies

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke

RED EYED FLY The Sweethearts, Rockland Eagles, Young Heart Attack

REDRUM Hatim Belyamani, the Invincible Czars, Muppletone CD Release

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Mr. Fabulous (8:30)

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FRIDAY DEC 31ST • DOORS 9PM • SHOW 10PM
TICKETS ON SALE SAT 12/4 AT 10AM!

THU DEC 2ND 8:00PM
"A scintillating performance in the blue realm." San Diego Tribune
Sue Foley
WITH JANE BOND
SPECIAL LATE SET: EVE MONSEES & THE EXILES
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

FRI DEC 3RD 8:00PM
RECKLESS KELLY
AND NOELLE HAMPTON
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

SAT DEC 4TH 8:00PM
AN ALLSTAR TRIBUTE TO
"THE KING OF ZYDECO" CLIFTON CHENIER
STARRING
CJ CHENIER
& THE RED HOT LOUISIANA BAND
feat. members of the CLIFTON CHENIER BAND
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

MON DEC 6TH 8:00PM
BLUE MONDAY
ROSCOE • RILEY • DEREK • MIKE • FROSTY
Featuring MARK GOODWIN & MGB with
BILL MADDOX OF ALLEN LOVE CHILD
SINGERS FROM HAPPY HOME WITH NO
ROB ROY PARNELL
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

THU DEC 9TH 8:00PM
PUDGE ZEPPELIN
with baby girl
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FRI DEC 10TH 8:00PM
the **GOURDS**
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SAT DEC 11TH 8:00PM
VMG PRESENTS...
VALLEJO
DIRTY WORMZ • BROKEN TEETH
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

WED DEC 15TH 8:00PM
MICKY & THE MOTORCARS
WITH RODGER WILKO
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

THU DEC 16TH 8:00PM
8 1/2 SOUVENIRS
REUNION SHOW!
WITH SPECIAL GUEST
NIESHA HARRISON SCARLETT CLUSCH
TICKETS AVAILABLE THROUGH FRIDAY 12/10/04

FRI DEC 17TH 8:00PM
an evening with
IAN MCLAGAN
& THE BUMP BAND
TICKETS AT THE DOOR!

SAT DEC 18TH 8:00PM
TROUT FISHING
in AMERICA
(CD Release)
FAMILY CHRISTMAS SHOW
(live show - single - CD release)
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

SAT DEC 18TH 8:00PM
LATE SHOW **BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO**
WITH SPECIAL GUEST- TEA

COMING SOON
SAT 1/15 JACOB FRED JAZZ ODYSSEY
WITH THE DEAD KEMMY G'S
THU 1/21 THE HEADHUNTERS

LA ZONA ROSA

SUN DEC 5
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MON DEC 13
lostprophets
DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

WED DEC 22
6TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE
ROGER CREAGER
KEVIN FOWLER
JACK INGRAM
CORY MORROW
RANDY ROGERS
BILLY JOE SHAVER
DOORS 8 • SHOW 9

SAT JAN 15
JIMMY EAT WORLD

TUE JAN 25
VH1 PRESENTS **KEANE**

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SATURDAY
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\$1 OFF BEER & FREE GRUB
THU DEC 2



THU DEC 2



ELY GUERRA
FRI DEC 3



REBIRTH BRASS BAND
SAT DEC 4



SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
GOSPEL BRUNCH SUN DEC 5

BELLS OF JOY
WITH THE SHORE AND BELLAPARKER
THU DEC 9

THE DAMN WELLS
WITH THE SHORE AND BELLAPARKER
THU DEC 9

VOODOO GLOW SKULLS
WITH CO BETTY CO.
BIG D & THE KID STABLE
AND THE FUPS
FRI DEC 10

DAMES VIOLET
SAT DEC 11

OLIVER FUTURE WITH AM60
WED DEC 15
AN EVENING WITH
CITIZEN COPE
THU DEC 16

LOST TRAILERS
THU DEC 30

BURDEN BROTHERS
(TIX HONORED FROM LZR SHOW ON 10/30)
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AN EVENING WITH
THE GOURDS
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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

HAPPY HOUR W/
IAN MCLAGAN'S
"FOUR GUYS WALK INTO A BAR"

FEATURING **SCRAPPY JUD NEWCOMB, DON HARVEY AND MARK ANDES 6PM**

LATER AT 9:30PM
WIDEAWAKE
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3 • 8PM

SOUNDS UNDER RADIO
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 • 8PM

DAMES VIOLET
MONDAY, DECEMBER 6 • 9PM

54 SECONDS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7 • 11PM

BOOMBOX
FEATURING **CARLOS SOSA, JOHN POINTER & MANY OTHERS**
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 • 9PM

ANAGEN
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9 • 6PM

HAPPY HOUR "FOUR GUYS WALK INTO A BAR..." FEATURING
IAN MCLAGAN AND THE BUMP BAND WITH
SCRAPPY JUD NEWCOMB, DON HARVEY AND MARK ANDES 6PM

LATER AT 9:30PM
DRAGONFLY JONES

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— The Saxon now has NTN trivia game!

Thurs., Dec. 2 8:00pm **Carolyn Wonderland**
Special Early Show

George Devore 11:00pm
James Hand Happy Hr. 6:00-7:30pm No Cover!

Fri., Dec. 3
The Greencards 11:00pm

Sidehill Gougers 9:30pm **Jim Scarborough**
r 6:00pm The Regulars CD release 8:00pm

Sat., Dec. 4
Playing their hit songs, "The Way" & "Out Our Heads" 11:00pm

Fastball
Driver 9:30pm **Ron Flynt** 8:00pm

Sun., Dec. 5
The Resentments
with: Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman 7:00pm

Walter Tragert 10:30pm
Bruce Smith with Daniel McKeever 12:00am

Mon., Dec. 6
Judith Owen
with **Harry Shearer** & special guest
Doors 7:00pm, Show @ 8:00pm

Seth Walker 10:00pm
Something Johnson 12:00pm

Tues., Dec. 7
Will Sexton Danny Schmidt 8:00pm
with an All Star Band 12:00am Happy Hour with:

Mad 3 10:00pm **Denim** 6:00pm
Wed., Dec. 8

Tony Scalzo of Fastball 8:00pm
Tyrone Vaughan 11:00pm

Brian Hankins 9:30pm **Casey Just**
Happy Hour with: **Holden On** 6:00pm 12:30am

Coming to the Saxon:
12/10 **Joe Ely/Guy Forsyth**
12/11 **Joe Ely/South Austin Jug Band**
Tix for both shows on sale online www.thesaxonpub.com

12/17 **KGSR Christmas Show** with Surprise Guests
12/18 **Ray Benson/Carolyn Wonderland**

WATERLOO Ice House
6TH & LAMAR

9-1AM EACH TUES. KARAOKE NIGHT \$2 DOMESTIC DRAFTS
6-8PM EACH THUR. HAPPY HOUR W/THE HUDSONS
★ FRI., DEC. 3★
FIVE MILE BAND ★ SAT., DEC. 4★
HOSTING SINGER/SONGWRITER NIGHT **JENNY REYNOLDS**

★ FRI., DEC. 10★
YELLOWBELLIES ★ SAT., DEC. 11★
POOR YORICK
38TH & MEDICAL PARKWAY

★ FRI., DEC. 3★
BRUCE JONES & THE MONOTONES ★ SAT., DEC. 4★
CARRIE SOLOMON

★ FRI., DEC. 10★
CIRCLE IN A SQUARE ★ SAT., DEC. 11★
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All pitchers on special

Friday, Dec. 3, 10PM
ULTRASONIC • THE GUEST
\$3 Jager, \$1.50 Pearl, Pabst, High Life

Saturday, Dec. 4, 8PM
ONION CREEK CRAWDADDIES
STAYTON BONNER • JAY WOLF
Pitcher & Shot Specials During the Game

Sunday, Dec. 5, 9PM
MATT HUBBARD
JAMES BULLARD
HURTS TO PURR
Cheap Pitchers during NFL Games

Monday, Dec. 6
\$1 DOMESTIC BEERS, \$2 WELLS, \$2 PREMIUM BEERS

Tuesday, Dec. 7, 9PM
PARKER BRADLEY
PATRICK PARKINS
CHERYL BLISS
KEVIN BROWN
\$4.50 Lone Star Pitchers with Student I.D.

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club LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM FRIDAY

RILEY'S TAVERN Johnny Gringo
ROOM 710 00Spies, the Winks,
 Urgencies (10:00)

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Brennen
 Leigh

RUTA MAYA New Cycle, Global Soul
 CD Release (9:00)

SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Jeff
 Strange (10:00)

SAENGERHALLE Ryan Bales

SAKÉ ON SIXTH Gritty & Obi

SAMPAIO'S Joel Shuler (7:15)

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00),
 Jim Scarborough CD Release,
 Sidehill Gougers, the Greencards
 (8:00)

SIDEKICKS/XTREME DJ AmERICA,
 Nick Matthews

STUBB'S Rebirth Brass Band

SWERVE COFFEE LOUNGE Get It
 On! w/ Jeff Strange (6:00)

TRAVIS COUNTY EXPO CENTER Ice
 Bats Concert Series: Kevin Fowler
 (7:35)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL
 Susanna Sharp & Catavento (7:30)

TROPHY'S Big Bear, Things That Go
 Pop, the Unbearables, Awesome
 Cool Dudes

THE VIBE Caldwell Shine, Josh
 Siegel, Brutus Poncy, Big Wu

VUE DJ AM

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Five
 Mile Band

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Bruce Jones
 & the Monotones (8:00)

WATERTANK Karaoke w/ R.J.

Y RESTAURANT & BAR Rick McRae
 Jazz Trio (7:00)

YOGI'S Open Mic w/ 70 Thru Selma
 (8:00)

ZTEJAS GRILL Thomas Hughes Trio
 (6:00)

Sat 0 4

219 WEST DJ Trace

311 CLUB Catherine Denise, Gilson
 Viator (8:30)

ALICE'S RESTAURANT Jackson,
 Laura Freeman

ANTONE'S Clifton Chenier Tribute w/
 CJ Chenier (9:00)

APPLE BAR Jazztronica &
 Cosmopolitan Grooves w/ DJ
 Starsign (10:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bill Passalacqua

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET
 DOWNTOWN Latin at Heart
 (10:00 am)

B.D. RILEY'S PUB Joe Richardson

BACK ROOM Exidium, Distempered
 CD Release, Exit the Sun,
 Hatchetwork

BEERLAND Sean Reefer & the Resin
 Valley Boys, Flametrick Subs

BIG DAVE'S Mojo (9:30)

BOATHOUSE GRILL Barrelhouse
 Dogs

'BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dale Watson

BROWN BAR David Miranda (10:00)

CACTUS CAFE Johnny A.

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Ugly Beats,
 the Transgressors

CEDAR STREET Kalico Kings (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE
 The Derailers

CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST
 KOOP Benefit:
 Brekekekexkxkoaxkoax, Rick
 Reed, Brandon Young, Iron Kite,
 Cris Cogburn, Weird Weeds,
 e.c.f.a., Amazing Hancock Bros. w/
 Fabulous Folshenshion (6:00)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert
 (3:00), Big Balls, Pudge Zeppelin
 (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz (9:45)

COTTON CLUB Cotton Pickers (9:00)

DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum
 (7:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Nash Hernandez
 Orchestra

DONA EMILIA'S SOUTH AMERICAN
BAR & GRILL Gypsy Moon (9:00)

THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern,
 George Oldziej (6:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
 Jeff Hellmer Trio (8:00)

EGO'S Grub Dog & the Modestos
 (8:30)

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Cañonaso w/
 Erica Pacheco

ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Brannen Temple
 w/ Leni Stern (9:30)

ELYSIUM Haven: Goth Night w/ DJ
 Gothfather, DJ Void

EMO'S Early: Courage Under Chaos,
 Almost Failing, Good in the Sack,
 X-Rated Presents, Rubberhead;
 Outside: Ignorance Park, Dead
 Whale Tide, Spoon; Inside Later:
 Dick Rider DJs, Ill Lit

FADO DJ Scary, Blaggards (10:00)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Buckley

FLAMINGO CANTINA Capt.

Bringdown & the Buzzkillers, Los
 Skamales, the Stingers ATX (9:00)

FLIP'S SATELLITE CAFE Sheridan,
 Erik Hokkanen (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Doug
 Burr, Dao Strom (9:00)

T.U.B.
 TEXAS UNLIMITED BAND

FRIDAY 9:30

Happy Hour 6-8 *		Headliners 9:30	
thur	2	Gaila Trickey	Sauce
fri	3	John Pointer	T.U.B.
sat	4		Calico Kings
sun	5	Monster Big Band	Les & the Funk Mob
mon	6	Slow Train	Trent Durham Band
tue	7	Eve Monsees	East Side Kings
wed	8	Trent & Dave	Juice

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 12/9: **MARK SANDERS**
 12/10: **GRANT MAZAK**
 12/11: **HAYES CARLL BAND**

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THURSDAY Topaz [10:00]
 WITH GUESTS

FRIDAY New Cycle LIVE BRAZILIAN MUSIC [6:00]
 DJ Mel & David Miranda [10:00]
 HIPHOP, 80'S & FUNKSOLBREAKS

SATURDAY (The Juice) Live DJs [10:00]
 A TASTY BLEND OF FUNK, ROOTS, & SOUL

Tambaleo

SUNDAY All Night Happy Hour [7:00]

MONDAY Monday Night Football [7:00]
 \$2 DOMESTIC BOTTLES

TUESDAY Laura Scarborough [10:00]
 OHN, LILA'S MEDICINE & SPECIAL GUESTS

WEDNESDAY (Krunkaoke) HipHop Karaoke [10:00]
 HOSTED BY DJ MEL & DAVID MIRANDA

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SATURDAY DEC. 4TH KLBK PARTY WITH AD



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CENTRO-MATIC

GRAND CHAMPEEN
 THE NEW ROMAN TIMES
 TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM & WATERLOO RECORDS
 SAT 124...NON-SMOKING...DOORS 8:30PM SHOW 10PM

HAIRY-APES-BMX
 MEETS
PONG
 TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM & WATERLOO RECORDS
 MON 126 & TUES 127...DOORS 9PM SHOW 9:30PM NIGHTLY
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 12/31 NEW YEAR'S EVE w/ DJ NEEL'S ROCK THE CABBAGE!



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 the **CORNELL HURD** band

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BILL KIRCHEN
 8-10PM-10-30PM
 FLIP & THE BIRD

SATURDAY 12/4
SHELLEY KING BAND
 8-10-10-30PM

SUNDAY 12/5
 8-10PM COVER (TAXIS WHO ROCK)
POP STARS
 HATTIE HIGHTON, DEANER VESLIN
 10-11-11-30PM

TUESDAY 12/7
 8-10-11-30PM
JON EMERY BAND
 KING OF HILLBILL ROCK-2-ROLL

WEDNESDAY 12/8
URANIUM SAVAGES
 30TH BIRTHDAY BASH!
 7-10PM NO COVER

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Making a pyramid of sixteen Tuaca Lemon Drops for a bunch of women from a hairdressers' convention.

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Shot of Red Bull
Sweet-n-Sour
and sugar on the rim.



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FRI DEC 3
8 PM NO COVER!

\$5 COVER
8 PM
54 SECONDS
SAT DEC 4

EVE MONSEES & THE EXILES
FRI DEC 10
OMAR & THE HOWLERS
SAT DEC 11

UPCOMING SHOWS:
12/9 JOSEPH KING
12/17 ERIC TESSMER
12/18 ROCK BOTTOM CHOIR
CD RELEASE PARTY
12/23 SHANE BARTELL

calendar MUSIC

club LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM SATURDAY

GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Glenn Collins (9:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Danatones & Holden On
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL James Andrews Band
GREEN MESQUITE BBQ S. Turtle Creek (6:30)
GRUENE HALL Alvin Crow (1:00), Micky & the Motorcars, Reckless Kelly (9:00)
HANOVER'S Monte Montgomery
HEADHUNTERS Punk Rock BBQ: Skate Around Chippy, the Action Is, Brass Knuckle Boys, Pink Swords (4:00), Natchet Taylor, American Roos, Black Novas, Born to Lose (9:00)
HILL'S CAFE Paul Eason
HOLE IN THE WALL Jay Wolf, Stayton Bonner, Onion Creek Crawdaddies (8:00)
IDLEWILD RESTAURANT Booskay (6:00)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Shelley King (8:30)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LUCKY LOUNGE Damesviolet (8:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE People of Habit, the Guest, Animus
MOMOS Jake Andrews, Carolyn Wonderland
MOON RIVER Night Shift (9:30)
MOTHER'S CAFE Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30 am)
MOXIE AND THE COMPOUND Austin Children's Shelter Benefit w/ Matt the Electrician, Pop Stars: Dads Who Rock (3:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mr. K
OSLO DJ Chicken George (10:00)
THE PARISH Hairy Apes BMX, Pong
THE PARLOR The Panties (10:00)
PLUSH DJ Phytteen
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Hotrod Hillbillies, Cosmic Dust Devils
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RED EYED FLY Ghostland Observatory, Kazi, Dynah
REDRUM Set Aflame, \$25 Massacre, Killing Word, Ed Gein, All Else Failed, Oceanus
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Maximum Bob & the SG Project (6:00), Marc Devine Quartet w/ Donna Hightower (8:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Eleven Hundred Springs
ROOM 710 Passed Out Flyers, Floozy, Baby Girl, Awesome Cool Dudes
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies
ROY'S AUSTIN Tucker Roundtree

RUTA MAYA Big Mama & the Furrballs (7:00)
SAENGERHALLE Buster Jiggs
SAKE ON SIXTH Ali Elwakhi, Henry Chow, J.A.M.O.N., Louis Ramirez, Merrick Brown
SAMPAIO'S Bem Brazil (7:30)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Uncle Roland (8:00)
SAXON PUB Drive, Fastball (10:00)
SIDEKICKS/XTRME DJ Bryan Conrad, Nick Matthews
SKY LOUNGE DJ Craig Brunkenhoefer
SOUND ON SOUND Video Screams, the Winks, Manikin (7:00)
STUBB'S Gospel Brunch w/ Bells of Joy (noon), South Austin Jug Band (10:00)
TRIUMPH CAFE Brian MacLeod's HiFi (7:00)
TROPHY'S Black Angels, the John Sparrow, the Good Looks, the Platforms
THE VIBE Aurora Skyline, Lost in South Austin, Haustyle, the Grays
VUE DJ AM
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Jenny Reynolds
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Carrie Solomon
WATERTANK Karaoke w/ R.J.

Sun 05

219 WEST DJ Trace
ALICE'S RESTAURANT P.J. the Cowboy Poet's Gospel Project (11:30 am)
ARTHOUSE AT THE JONES CENTER AMODA: Olivia Block, Imbroglio String Quartet, William Block, Josh Russell (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Central Texas Bluegrass Assoc. Jam (2:00), Loafer's Glory (6:00)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Jazz Brunch (11:00 am)
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Brian Shirk, Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic w/ Bourland (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)
BEERLAND Disco Hospital (8:00)
BIG DAVE'S Karaoke w/ Stormy
BOOMERZ Raquel
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Steve
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CEDAR STREET Monster Big Band (4:00), Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Sidehill Gougers
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! w/ Redd Volkaert & Earl Poole Ball (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
D&L'S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE Ricky Broussard (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Old Waterloo Jazz Band (2:00)
THE DRINK SHU (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mac Bynum (7:00)
EGO'S The Aquaholics, the Undertakers, 3 Balls of Fire (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Doug Hall Trio (9:30)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Silver Cyber Slut, DJ Spider Lily
FADO Prize Mic
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Headtrip w/ DJ Ali Elwakhi & DJ Josh Sweet
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sunday Shakedown w/ DJ Tomas, Funk Shui (5:00)
FRIENDS Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs & the Shuffle Pigs
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Jam (7:30)
GRUENE HALL Brennen Leigh (noon) the Greencards (4:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Tex Thomas (3:00)
HEADHUNTERS Black Novas, Blatherskyte
HOLE IN THE WALL Liz Pappademas & Hurts to Purr, James Bullard, Matt Hubbard (9:00)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Matt the Electrician, Pop Stars: Dads Who Rock (6:00)
LA ZONA ROSA VHS or Beta, Scissor Sisters
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Lomita
LUDWIG'S Ice Cream Sundays: Pale Soul, D-Madness, Michael C'zar
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Gospel Project, Imperial Golden Crown Harmonizers (11:00 am)
MOMOS Gustavo Rodriguez, Cerronato, Mary Welch y los Curanderos, Son de Rey
MOON RIVER Karaoke
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Meals on Wheels Benefit w/ the Leghounds, Honkytonk Brunch w/ the Pedernales Playboys (noon), Karaoke w/ Edie (7:00)
NUOVO LEON RESTAURANT Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
ONE WORLD THEATRE Rita Coolidge Holiday Show w/ Westlake High Madrigal Choir (5:00, 7:30)
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney & the Boys (9:00)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
REDRUM Squares Are Best, Leaving July, As You Wish, Good in the Sack
RILEY'S TAVERN Stephanie & Matt
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
ROOM 710 Los Hispanos UK, Magically Delicious Smoking Skunk Monkey, Teabag, Full Stride
RUTA MAYA Woody Russell CD Release (7:00)

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Friday Dec. 3: Wes Hayden

Saturday Dec. 4: Paul Eason

Tuesday Dec. 7: Pete Benz

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calendar

MUSIC

club LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM SUNDAY

SAKÉ ON SIXTH S.I.N. w/ Robert Montero

SAXON PUB Bruce Smith & Daniel McKeever, the Resentments, Walter Tragert (7:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
TAMBALEO George Carver, Rubinchik's Yiddish Ensemble, Shorty Long (7:00)

TAZ COUNTRY Karaoke w/ Big Al
THE RITZ Joe Bates Memorial/SIMS Foundation Benefit: King of Sixth Street, Charron, Zach Parrish Band, Appa's Blues Power w/ Alan Haynes, DeWayne Davis w/ Uncle John Turner, Gilson Viator, Joe Richardson Express, Eric Tessmer Band (4:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz & Holly Aiken (9:00)

WATERTANK Open Mic w/ Andy Lemaster

Y RESTAURANT & BAR Jazz Brunch w/ Nicole Janson (11:30)

Mon 06

ANTONE'S Rob Roy Parnell (6:00); Mark Goodwin & MG3 w/ Bill Maddox; Roscoe, Riley Osbourne, Derek O'Brien, Frosty (11:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned

BEERLAND Karaoke (6:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Steve

CACTUS CAFE Rob Halverson's Earchostra CD Release (8:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart (6:00), Trent Durham Band (9:30)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Smooth Tones

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mac Bynum (7:15)

EGO'S Beth Garner, Black Joe Lewis (8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ AM

FRIENDS Catherine Denise, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Billy Dee & Redd Volkaert (9:00)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Uranium Savages 30th Birthday

HANOVER'S Open Mic w/ Corey Michael

HEADHUNTERS Bargain Music, Halo Rings Her Head

HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE Karaoke (7:30)

JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)

LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Jared Francis, Lost Trailers

MOMOS U.T. Ethnomusicology Ensemble (8:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl Koonce

NASTY'S DJ Mel, Baby G

THE OFFICE LOUNGE DJ Woody

THE PARISH Diplo, Lyrics Born, RJD2 (10:00)

REDRUM Plastik Lies

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Larissa (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Fender & the Skirtchasers

ROOM 710 Meetfist, Josh Koons & Brainchild, Squares Are Best, SOS

RUTA MAYA B-Boy Breakdancing (9:00)

SAXON PUB Judith Owen & Harry Shearer Christmas Show, Seth Walker, Something Johnson (7:30)

THE VIBE Karaoke w/ Bruce

WATERTANK Acoustic Jam Open Mic w/ Tony Fant

Tue 07

219 WEST Crucial Prophet

311 CLUB Pride & Joy (8:30)

ARARAT Sergey

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

BEERLAND Knife in the Water

BROKEN SPOKE Will Harrell

BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CEDAR STREET Texas Eastside Kings (9:30)

CHARLIE'S Margaret Wright

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Doak Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30), Grady (11:00)

CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:30)

D&L'S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE Slim Richey (8:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)

EGO'S Redd Volkaert & Billy Dee, Small Stars Revue (8:30)

EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE "Writers Who Rock" Songwriters Night w/ Christine Young, Melissa Mullins (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Tony Campise Big Band (9:30)

ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah

EMO'S Despidado; the Snake, the Cross, the Crown; Owen; mewith-outyou (5:30)

FADÓ Tea Merchants (8:00)

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Toddy B, DJ J.A.M.O.N.

FLAMINGO CANTINA Shakey Bean's Open Mic, Minutes to Burn, Eta Carinae, Plastik Lies, Slider

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Mau Mau Chaplains

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Mic (8:00)

HEADHUNTERS Punk N Porn: Head Panic, the Hates

HOLE IN THE WALL Kevin Brown, Cheryl Bliss, Patrick Perkins, Parker Bradley (9:00)

JOE'S GENERIC The Mighty Orq, Alan Haynes

JOVITA'S Jon Emery Band (8:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John Pointer (11:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE TunaHelpers, Heldunderwater

MOMOS Patrice Pike, Ginger Leigh, Aphid

THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D

OSLO Hedda Layne

THE PARISH Lyrics Born, RJD2

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin

RED EYED FLY The Hat Madder

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley (6:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Bo, Adam, and Jackson

RIVERBEND CENTRE Handel's Messiah w/ Austin Symphony Orchestra, Chorus Austin (8:00)

ROADHOUSE Meter Peakers

ROOM 710 The Panties, American Vodka, Hecho

RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)

SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB Denim (6:00), Danny Schmidt, Mad 3, Will Sexton's All Star Band (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Mr. K

SPEAKEASY KKQ (9:30)

STUBB'S Bella Parker, the Shore, the Damnwells (10:00)

TAMBALEO Medicine: Laura Scarborough, Ohn, Lila's Medicine (10:00)

TAVERN ON THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis, Jason Freed

THE VIBE Moving Matter

WATERTANK Karaoke w/ RJ

WHISKY BAR Troy Dillinger & Taxi (9:00)

thurs The Nuthin' New All Stars 10:00-2:00

fri AN ARABIAN NIGHT 8:00-11:00
DJ Chicken George 11:00-2:00

sat The Flying Club (band) 8:30-10:30
DJ Kurv 10:30-2:00

sun DJ Kurupt hip-hop to r&b

mon DJ In/Verse motown and funk

tues DJ Manny TWIST UP mixing past, present and future party mixes

wed DJ Shane and DJ Linda rotate weeks



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DOUG MORELAND 10PM
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SAT 12/4
MONTE MONTGOMERY 10PM
MON 12/6
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Profits from Broadcasts Vol. 12 will benefit our friends at the SIMS Foundation.



The SIMS Foundation offers a way for Austin music fans to become more involved with the music community. Purchasing Broadcasts Vol. 12 helps SIMS to provide effective mental and emotional health services. For more information, to make a contribution, or to volunteer, please contact the SIMS Foundation at 512-472-1008 www.simsfoundation.org

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Friday, December 3
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THE INVINCIBLE CZARS
HATIM BELYAMANI

Saturday, December 4
OCEANUS
ALL ELSE FAILED Abacus Records
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THE KILLING WORD
25 DOLLAR MASSACRE
SET AFLAME

Sunday, December 5
GOOD IN THE SACK
AS YOU WISH Florida
LEAVING JULY
SQUARES ARE BEST

Monday, December 6
HAZARD OF THE INDUSTRY
PLASTIK LIES

Wednesday, December 8
NEW AMERICAN STANDARD
THE OCCIDENTALS

Thursday, December 9
57 STATE
THIRD TIME HABIT
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calendar MUSIC

club LISTINGS

Wed 08

219 WEST Ultralounge w/ Kevin Ahart (10:00)

311 CLUB Dewayne Davis (8:30)

AGAVE Jackson, Eric Tessmer (10:00)

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWN-TOWN Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey post-screening: Austin Thermonic Orchestra

ARARAT Laura Scarborough (8:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)

BEERLAND Zom Zoms, Daquiri, World Providers, TunaHelpers

BROKEN SPOKE Wes Hayden (8:00)

BROWN BAR DJ Manny

CACTUS CAFE Slaid Cleaves

CAFE MUNDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones, Bruce Hughes (8:00)

CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Fluffers Union

CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave (6:00), Juice (9:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle

CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB Karaoke (8:00)

COFFEE CREATOR Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)

COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:00)

CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)

CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee

D&S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Bayou Drifters (8:00)

THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)

EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam, Small Stars Revue (8:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Resurrection w/ DJ Argo, DJ Spider Lily

EMO'S Architects, This Side Up, Cassette, Cruiserweight

FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Centro w/ Richard Henry, Luis Ramirez

FLAMINGO CANTINA Kunal, DJ Tats, Mirage, Dirty Politics, Soul Expression

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Stayton Bonner & Gordy Quist, Gina Lee (8:00)

FRIENDS John McVey & the Stumble (10:30)

GIDDY UP'S Jackson Taylor Band

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Justin Trevino

GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Steve & Ian (8:00)

GUADALAJARA RESTAURANT & CANTINA El Mariachi y la Compania (6:00)

HEADHUNTERS Terrible Palsy

HILLTOP TAVERN Open Mic

JOE'S GENERIC Swamp Sauce, Pride & Joy

JOVITA'S Uraium Savages 30th Birthday (8:00)

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Anagen (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem

MIDTOWN LIVE Karaoke w/ Ro' Black (8:00)

MOMOS Jade Day, Wendy Colonna, Brian Keane, Joy Davis w/ Wayne Sutton

MOON RIVER Karaoke (7:00)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Mr. K (9:00)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST Natalie Zoe & Beth Garner (6:00)

NUNO'S NIGHTCLUB Karaoke

THE OFFICE LOUNGE DJ Woody

OSLO DJ Avatar

PLUS Get Broke: DJ Merrick Brown, DJ Tyler, DJ Will B. (10:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones

RAGGEDY ANNE'S Karaoke

REDRUM New American Standard

REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Scott Wood & the Kyle Project

ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D

ROOM 710 Head Panic, Condemned Unit, Mayday, Malcontent Party

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins

ROY'S AUSTIN Obattalah

RUTA MAYA Steve Bernal, Art Bazaar w/ Devin Myers, David Goldsby, Barusaland (6:00)

SAENGERHALL Brady Black, Randy Rogers

SAHARA NIGHTCLUB Neo-Soul Lounge & Poetry Reading Open Mic (7:30)

SAKE ON SIXTH Titus, Kadabra, Lotek, Gritty

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TUE., DEC. 7 **WILL HARRELL NO COVER**
WED., DEC. 8 **6-10AM BLUE SANTA FUNDRAISER**
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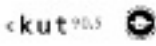
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MONDAY, DEC. 6	FREE SHOW METERMEN (9:30PM) PERFORMING THE MUSIC OF THE FUNKY METERS FROM NEW ORLEANS
TUESDAY, DEC. 7	JAZZ NIGHT KKQ QUINTET (9:30PM)
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8	LOW CARB LATIN JAZZ NIGHT THE BREW (9:30PM) Salsa Lessons (10:30PM)

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YOU: CURLY HAired GUY IN INTERPOL SHIRT drinking apple margarita at Polvos last Saturday. Me: brunette in ponytail and Yankees cap, eating late lunch with friend. Next time, join me for margs?

**POTENTIAL NUMBER
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calendar

MUSIC

club LISTINGS

◀ ◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

SAXON PUB Holden On (6:00), Tony Scalzo, Brian Hankins, Tyrone Vaughan, Casey Just (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke w/ Shawn the Kid (8:00)
SPEAKEASY The Brew, Salsa Lessons (9:30)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Herschel Moody (7:30)
THE VIBE Mevyn
VUE DJ AM
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan
Z'TEJAS GRILL Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Friends (6:00)

Thu 09

1920S CLUB Margaret Wright (8:30)
311 CLUB Gilson Viator, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Jelly Jar, Ogma's Mystery, Bear's Songwriter Jam
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Karaoke w/ Stormy
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jim Stringer
BEERLAND Tuxedo Killers, Japanther
BOOMERZ Jamie
BOOTS NIGHT CLUB Karaoke
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR Trey Lopez (10:00)
CACTUS CAFE Slaid Cleaves
CANARY HUT PUB Karaoke
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Cheryl Murdock
CEDAR STREET Gaila Trickley (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Mark Saunders
COMMON INTEREST Karaoke (7:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Saturday's Radar, the Onlys, the Glass Family, Grand Champen (9:30)
COTTON CLUB Outlaw Underground
D&L'S TEXAS MUSIC CAFE Steven Pile (8:00)
DALE'S ESSENHAUS Karaoke (7:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:30)
EGO'S Crawling With Kings, the Stingers
ELEPHANT ROOM Jacinta (6:00), Tomás Ramírez (9:30)
EMO'S Late: Good Times Crisis Band, Attack Formation, America Is Waiting, U.S. Maple, Early: Mr. Grave Digger, the Kirby, Vendetta Red
FLAMINGO CANTINA Drag the Lake, \$25 Massacre, Kidnap Soundtrack, Consider the Source, Heldunderwater
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FOX & HOUND Bo Reynolds & Woody Russell
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Odd Man Out (9:00)
GRUENE HALL The Warren Bros., Robert Earl Keen (8:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Mark Goodwin
HOLE IN THE WALL Eve Monsees & the Exiles, Walter Tragert (9:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Mark Rubin & His Ridgtop Syncopators, Hollis Webb
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan w/ Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Don Harvey, and Mark Andes (6:00), Dragonfly Jones (9:30)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Blowing Trees, Adenosine, Flickerstick
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Slim Richey's Dream Band (7:00)
MOMOS Rachel Loy, Damesviolet, IllCamino, Phoenix Down
MOON RIVER Acoustic Night (7:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Matt Dunham
NUNO'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic w/ Greg Kettler
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Big Al
ONE 2 ONE John Napier (9:00)
THE PARISH The Chapters, Experimental Aircraft
PLUSH DJ Phytteen
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Bear & the Essentials (10:00)
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Al
RANDY'S ICE HOUSE Karaoke w/ WCM
REDRUM I'm Okay You're Okay
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
RUTA MAYA Girls' Rock & Roll Camp Benefit: Gretchen Phillips, Amy Steinberg, Melissa Greener, Swamp Girls (7:00)
SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Jeff Strange (10:00)
SAENGERHALLE Open Mic w/ Gerald Dennison & Sean Palen
SALT LICK 360 Jazz Squares (6:00)
SAXON PUB James Hand (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
SOUND ON SOUND Assacre, Tuxedo Killers, Japanther (7:00)
STARS COFFEE BDT (7:00)
STUBB'S Cooper's Uncle (6:30), The F Ups, Big D & the Kid's Table, Go Betty Go, Voodoo Glow Skulls (10:00)
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TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Javier Chaparro Jazz Violin Duo (7:30)
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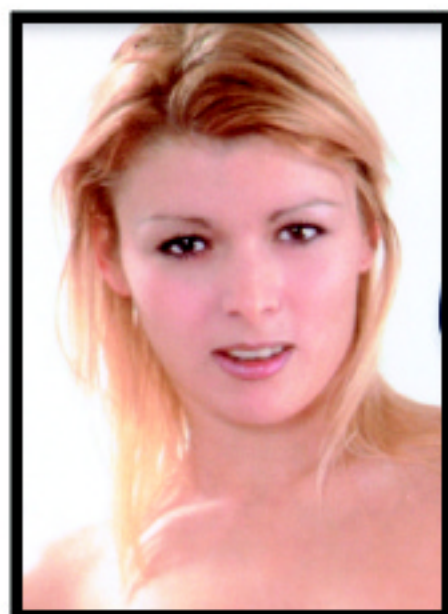
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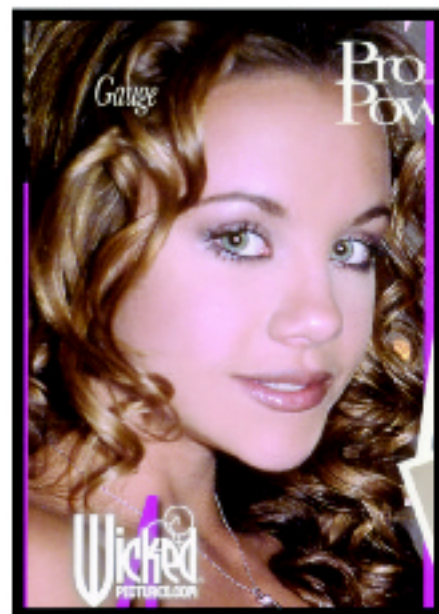


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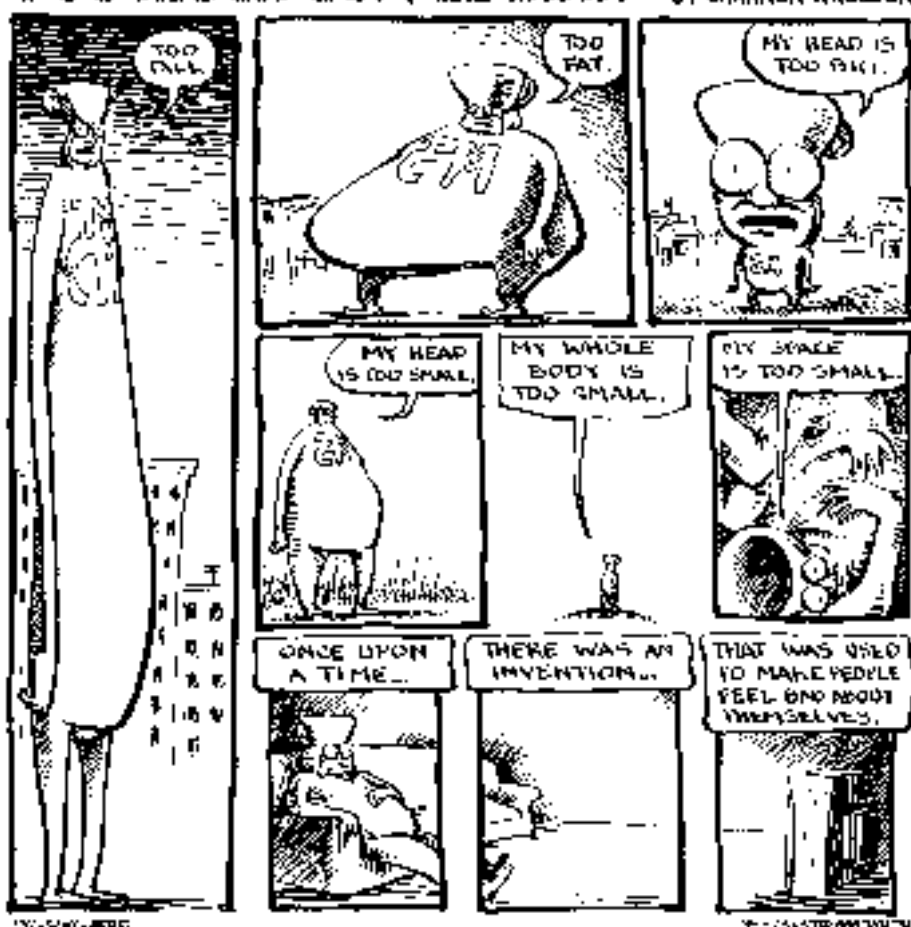
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 own schedule. No experience
 necessary.
 Apply in person
3615 S. Congress
447-5353

HOSTESS Wanted, Apply in
 person M-F, 2-4pm
 The Bitter End, 311 Colorado

SERVERS & CASHIERS
 Mongolian Grille Down Town,
 183N, & Round Rock. Call
 203-4827 or apply in person.

SERVERS Chee Zee American
 Bistro is now hiring
 Servers. Min. 2 yrs. experience.
 Apply in person 2-5pm
 at 5406 Balcones, 78731

WAITSTAFF

La Morada
Mexican Restaurant

Fun environment, rocking
 lunch & dinner shifts, flexible
 hours. No exp. necessary.
 Apply for our team at 12407
 N. Mopac Expy (next to HEB)
 or call 836-6611

RETAIL

RETAIL Buffalo Exchange, a
 resale clothing store, is
 looking for an energetic,
 hardworking individuals who
 love clothing, customer
 service, and a fast paced
 retail work environment. PT/
 FT positions with benefits.
 Apply at
 2904 Guadalupe
 www.buffaloexchange.com

BEAUTY/ SALON AND SPA

ALL POSITIONS Massage
 Therapist, Chiropractor,
 Aesthetician, Acupuncturist,
 Nutritionist, Barber. Two
 beautiful rooms for rent in S.
 Central Austin in positive,
 relaxing, environment.
 Located in Lamar Plaza,
 eclectic shops, restaurants,
 gym & home of the new
 Alamo Draft House. \$425
 ABP. Karen @ 442-8777,
 444-1080

CHAIR RENTAL
GOOD LOCATION!
GREAT PERKS!
CHAIR RENTAL
STYLIST NEEDED
 Call For Details
(512) 775-8747

HAIRSTYLISTS AND NAIL
TECHS Chair rent: Hairstylist
 \$130/week, Nail tech \$100/
 wk. 320-5907.

HAIRSTYLIST

P/T, mature Stylist needed
 with clientele to split rental in
 hip one chair hair salon in
 great central Austin location,
 near UT campus. Retail own
 products. Validated parking
 in covered garage. Rent is
 only \$207.50/Month! Email,
 indigohairworks@austin.tx.c
 m or Call 512-217-6270

HAIRSTYLIST Be independ-
 ent, rent a chair, great loca-
 tion with a wonderful team.
 451-6267.

HAIRSTYLIST Experienced
 Stylist/Colorist wanted for
 small upscale salon near UT.
 Reasonable chair rental. High
 Walk-ins, build clientele,
 knowledge of Aveda helpful.
 Call 848-3846

HAIRSTYLIST Positions
 available, Chair lease,
 Established salon, Great
 location. 1511 W. 6th St.
 Call 474-8261 or 217-5673

MANICURIST/PEDICURIST
 Large private room for rent in
 drama-free W. 6th. St. Salon.
 FT or PT. Pedicure station.
 \$175/wk. First 2 weeks Free.
 Call 472-5101

NAIL TECH/FACIALIST
 needed for Austin salon.
 Quality Clientele.
 Call Maisie at 292-TANN

GENERAL

ACTIVISM
WORK
 with the
Sierra Club
\$200 - \$500 Wk
 Protect our national forests
 Work with great people

Downtown Austin
 Call Sandy, 479-9804

ACTIVISM
Campaign Workers: Start
your Career in Politics
Enjoy the energy of
campaign work this
Nov.? TCE seeks those with
passion for grassroots
democracy and preserving
our environment for
permanent campaign work.
Whether you were happy or
not this November will still
have lots of work to do!
 • Advt and travel optpt
 • Full Time: 2-10pm M-F
 \$375-500/wk
 Don't get trapped
 behind a desk!!
 Texasenvironment.org
 512-326-5655

ACTIVIST
THERE IS LIFE
AFTER THE ELECTION
 The environment needs de-
 mocracy to thrive. The fight
 continues to hold our politi-
 cians accountable. Clean
 Water Actions is hiring
 Organizers and Campaigners
 to empower citizens!
 * FT/PT, flex evening sched.
 * Gar. BASE PAY, \$345+/wk
 * Benefits, travel/career opps
 * Rapid Advancements
Apply now, and be a part
of the solution.
 Call Shana: 474-1903

ASSISTANT MAINTENANCE
 AC certified a plus. Shalamar
 Apartments. 1640 Aquarene
 Dr. 512-353-8077

CLEANER wanted 20-30 hr/
 wk for professional cleaning
 company. \$8/hr. Must have
 car, be reliable and able to
 work flexible hours. Call Mat-
 thew 699-7828

Company-Paid CDL Training

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\$1,000 Student
Sign-On Bonus

No Experience
Needed

Earn up to
\$37,000/1st yr



Driver Training Hotline
1-877-825-8645
Apply Online at:
www.otrdrivers.com

AUDITIONS

Joey and Maria's Comedy Italian Wedding is casting
 men and women, ages 18-35 for their production. If you
 look Italian and are not afraid to chat it up with a bunch
 of strangers, then we want YOU. Acting experience is
 preferred, but not necessary. Productions are held on
 a regular basis, so reliable transportation is a must. All
 roles are non-union, but pay is involved.

Auditions will be held 12/3/04 at 7:00 p.m.
in Austin.

Call 1-800-733-5639 (JOEY)
for more information.

PAYDAY LOAN AREA MANAGER

QC Financial Services, Inc., a publicly
 owned and growing national payday loan company
 with over 350 locations in 22 states, is looking to
 add a *Austin Area Manager* to our team!

THIS INDIVIDUAL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Recruiting, hiring, training and direct supervision of multiple branches and employees.
- Identifying opportunities, including site selection, over seeing build-outs, licensing issues and overall management of the start up process.
- Tracking, management and reporting of regional financial and operational results on a weekly, monthly, quarterly and annual basis.
- Conducting financial audits on a regular basis.
- Ensuring branch operations comply with company policies and federal, state, and local laws.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE WILL HAVE:

- 2-3 years increasing supervisory responsibility in a multi-unit environment,
- Management experience in a payday loan, rent-to own, installment loan, collections, customer service or retail environment,
- Excellent communication and people management skill

We offer a salary range of 35-45K, plus a production based incentive bonus structure, as well as excellent benefits. EOE employer.

Forward resumes to tx.jobs@qcfinc.com, reference Austin Area

CUSTOMER SERVICE- Permanent & Temporary Holiday Help Needed - \$9.00/Hr.

Ampco System Parking is interviewing for Customer Service Attendants to assist with parking operations at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport.

We are looking for individuals with high energy and good people skills. Will train for the following positions. Opportunity for advancement.

Lot Attendants
Valet Parking Attendants
Maintenance/Customer Svc Shuttle Drivers
Lot Inventory

High School Graduate or equivalent. Must have valid driver's license and clean record. Ability to communicate in English.

Please apply in person Mon - Fri. 8:00 am - 2:00 pm
 Parking Administration Office
 2901 Employee Avenue
 Austin TX 78719

EMPLOYMENT The *Austin Chronicle's* Employment Section. Better applicants for less money. Call 512-454-5765 to place your ad today!

DELIVERY DRIVERS Are You Looking For A Job Where You Can Earn Great \$\$ And Benefits That Works Around Your Busy Schedule? If So, We Are Looking For You!!!! Join Our Growing Deli Operations Team As A Delivery Driver!! Flexible Shifts, 401K, Health Insurance, and More!! Must Have Valid Drivers License, Up to Date Insurance, Good Driving Record, Own Car, And Be 18 Yrs. Or Older. Apply @ These Jason's Deli In Person: ARBORETUM 10225 Research Blvd. 512-345-9586 HANCOCK 1000 East 41 Street #940 512-453-8666 ROUND ROCK 117 Louis Henna #110 Round Rock, TX. 78664 512-238-9023 WESTLAKE 3300 Bee Caves Rd. 512-328-0200

DRIVERS

\$20/hour Drivers Needed!

Need reliable, punctual a.m. driver for catering orders. Pay in cash. Limited hours. Easy work. Apply in person: 2712 Bee Cave #106 1-4pm.

PIZZA NIZZA

DRIVERS

\$1,000 Student Sign-On Bonus
 Company-Paid CDL Training
 NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
 Earn up to \$37,000
 Your First Year
 P.A.M. TRANSPORT
 Driver Training Hotline
 1-877-825-8645
 Apply online at
 www.otrdrivers.com

FLAT BED COMPANY DRIVERS NEEDED for Kingdom Transportation, Inc. Must be class A CDL, 2 yr OTR & 1 yr. flatbed experience. Call 888-246-3485

GENERAL HELP WANTED
 Need 500 people to help mail out our 2004 insurance forms (972)504-6675 (972)504-6224

METAL WORKERS
 Shop in Driftwood/Wimberley area needs metal & wood workers. Exp. in grinding, jewelry, & polishing helpful. Fax resume 512-847-9679

ONLINE PARALEGAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
 University of Texas • San Antonio offers an Online Paralegal Certificate Program. Web-based instruction. Formal Training. Instructed by Attorneys. Enhance your career. Classes begin Jan. 22nd. Career loans available. Registrations ends Jan. 18th. For information contact: Michele Jura, J.D. Paralegal Program Director (210) 458-7421 mjura@utsa.edu www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/paralegalonline

PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT Female personal care assist. needed for disabled woman in S. Austin area. If you've responded to this ad before, please call again. Job duties and Pay to be discussed in initial phone call. No Exp. necessary. Please have references. Mindy 292-6006

EMPLOYMENT Hire employees who are as smart as you are! Advertise your positions in the *Austin Chronicle's* Help Wanted section. Call 512-454-5765 for more info.

Research Studies

FOR HEALTH, MEDICAL, RESEARCH, AND CLINICAL TRIALS AND STUDIES

Sometimes it Pays to be a Rat

Healthcare Discoveries Inc. of San Antonio is looking for people to volunteer for upcoming clinical research trials. Volunteers must be healthy men or women at least 18 years old.

Depending on the research study, volunteers may be required to meet other criteria. Qualified volunteers may receive between \$500 and \$2,500 compensation for time. Compensation is trial dependent. For more information call:

(210) 694 - CARE (2273)
 www.healthcare-discoveries.com



pluckers

At Pluckers, we value people more than profits. That is why we call our patrons guests instead of customers. If you are motivated, fun-loving, want to be valued as an employee, and, make great money want to stop by either of our locations at 2222 Rio Grande or 9070 Research Blvd (Crossroads Shop. Ctr.)

WE ARE HIRING:
Managers
Cooks
Delivery Drivers
Servers and Cashiers

Never had a job in the restaurant business?
 We believe in our training program
 and will teach you the ropes!

DELIVERY DRIVERS

Jason's Deli

Are You Looking For A Job Where You Can Earn Great \$\$ And Benefits That Works Around Your Busy Schedule? If So, We Are Looking For You!!!! Join Our Growing Deli Operations Team As A Delivery Driver!! Flexible Shifts, 401K, Health Insurance, and More!! Must Have Valid Drivers License, Up to Date Insurance, Good Driving Record, Own Car, And Be 18 Yrs. Or Older.

Apply @ These Jason's Deli In Person:
Arboretum
 10225 Research Blvd. • 512-345-9586
Hancock
 1000 East 41 Street #940 • 512-453-8666
Round Rock
 117 Louis Henna #110
 Round Rock, TX. 78664 • 512-238-9023
Westlake
 3300 Bee Caves Rd. • 512-328-0200

University of Texas ★ San Antonio

Online Paralegal
Certificate Program

- Web-based instruction
- Formal training
- Instructed by Attorneys
- Enhance your career
- Classes begin Jan. 22nd
- Career loans available
- Registration ends Jan. 18th

For information contact:
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 Paralegal Program Director
 (210) 458-7421 • mjura@utsa.edu
 www.telecampus.utsystem.edu/paralegalonline



**WORK WITH THE BEST
 RECEIVE PAID BENEFITS
 MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

Austin's leading Comprehensive Child Development/ Early Education Program is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER** degree in EC, CD, or CDA
- **BILINGUAL TEACHER ASSISTANT** high school diploma or GED
- **FAMILY SERVICE WORKER** high school diploma or GED & reliable transportation
- **FOOD SERVICE WORKER** high school diploma or GED & reliable transportation

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
 Apply in person at **Child Inc.:**
 818 E. 53rd St., Austin, TX 78751
 EOE



THERE IS LIFE AFTER THE ELECTION

The environment needs democracy to thrive.
 The fight continues to hold our politicians accountable.
 Clean Water Actions is hiring Organizers and Campaigners to empower our citizens!

- FT/PT, flex evening schedule
- benefits, travel/career opportunities
- gar. base pay, \$345+/week
- progressive work environment

APPLY NOW, AND BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION.
CALL SHANA 474-1903



Is MIGRAINE Pain Making You SUFFER?

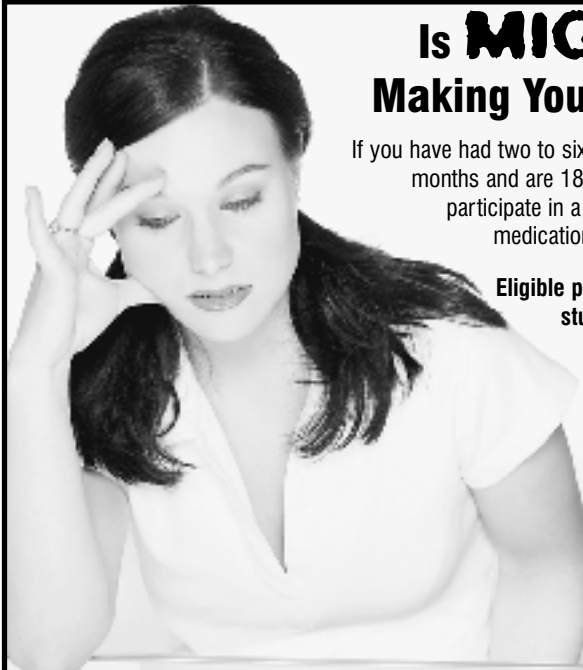
If you have had two to six migraines per month for the last six months and are 18-65 years of age, you may qualify to participate in a research study of an investigational medication used in the treatment of migraines.

Eligible participants in the study will receive study medication, study related tests, and exams; all at no cost.

Compensation up to \$100 will be paid to eligible patients for their time and participation.

Please Contact 1-800-369-2875
 For More Information

BENCHMARK
 RESEARCH
 www.benchmarkresearch.net



KIDNEY PROBLEMS AND DIABETES?

If you have kidney problems and type 2 diabetes, you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an oral investigational medication. In order to qualify, you must be 18 years or older and not using insulin to control your blood sugar.

As a participant you will receive:

- ◆ Study related medication and care ◆
- ◆ Lab tests ◆
- ◆ Glucose monitoring supplies ◆
- ◆ Diet and exercise counseling ◆

ALL AT NO CHARGE

Call today to learn more about the study and find out if you qualify for participation.

CENTRAL TEXAS CLINICAL RESEARCH
512 480-9660



Diabetes and PAIN



Many people with diabetes have a mild to severe form of nerve damage known as Diabetic Neuropathy.

If you are a diabetic, age 18 or older, and have been experiencing pain, numbness and/or tingling in your legs or feet, you may qualify for a clinical research study for **Diabetic Neuropathy**. Qualified participants will receive all study-related care and investigational drug at no cost. Compensation of up to \$425 may be offered for time and travel expenses.

Call Mon-Fri for more information

512.349.0139

12221 McPac Expressway North, 3rd Floor, Austin, TX

www.radiantresearch.com



Itching, tingling, burning sensations, blisters, raised red bumps

Do you have itching, tingling, or burning sensations, blisters, or raised red bumps in the genital area that irritate, itch or cause pain? Do you sometimes experience pain when urinating? We are looking for men and women at least 18 years old to participate in a clinical research study involving an investigational use of a marketed drug to treat genital herpes in people who are newly infected within the last 6 months.

All study related office visits, medical exams, and study medications will be provided at no cost. For more information, please contact:

BENCHMARK
RESEARCH

1-800-369-2875



ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM RECURRENT MOUTH ULCERS?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a research study evaluating the effectiveness of an investigational medication for the treatment of recurrent mouth ulcers. The duration of the study is 2 weeks.

You may qualify for this study if you:

- Are 12 years of age or older
- Have a history of recurrent mouth ulcers
- Are experiencing at least one mouth ulcer that started within the last 16 hours

All study-related exams, tests and a new investigational medication will be provided at no cost. Monetary compensation for time and inconvenience may be provided.

Please call:

BENCHMARK
RESEARCH

1-800-369-2875



DEPRESSION

ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION?

Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?

- Sad or depressed mood
- Loss of interest in work or activities
- Change in appetite - overeating or loss of appetite
- Change in sleep - oversleep or insomnia
- Decrease of motivation
- Lack of energy
- Difficulty concentrating

Call to participate
in an investigational medication study.
(512) 323-2622



www.communityclinical.com

DEPRESSION

DEPRESSION

FutureSearch Trials



is currently conducting INPATIENT and OUTPATIENT research studies for people with:

BIPOLAR DISORDER
SCHIZOPHRENIA
SCHIZOAFFECTIVE DISORDER

Participants should be at least 18 years of age. Be able to provide written informed consent. Financial compensation to those who qualify.

CALL 517-4658

Are Sore, Stiff Knees or Hips Slowing You Down?

If you are 21-75 years of age and have osteoarthritis of the knee or hip, you might be eligible to participate in a clinical research study.

Benchmark Research is currently seeking volunteers to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication used to treat osteoarthritis pain of the knee or hip.

Eligible participants in this study will receive:

- Investigational Medication
- Study Related Physical Exams, Lab Tests
- Compensation may be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

BENCHMARK

RESEARCH

www.benchmarkresearch.net

TO LEARN MORE PLEASE CALL
1-800-369-2875

Are you suffering from a yeast infection?

If you are currently experiencing the itching, burning, irritation and/or swelling commonly associated with a yeast infection, then you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study.

Benchmark Research is currently seeking female volunteers who are age 12 or older, are in general good health, and who are currently suffering from vulvovaginal candidiasis (yeast infection.)

Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
Study related exams
Study related lab tests
Investigational Medication

Eligible participants will also receive up to \$130 compensation for their time.

For more information please call
1-800-369-2875
www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK

RESEARCH

Glaucoma/Ocular Hypertension Eye Study

Do you have open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension? If so, you may qualify to participate in a medical research study, performed by a board certified ophthalmologist.



MetaClin Research, Inc. is conducting a research study to evaluate a new investigational drug. To qualify, you must be at least 18 years of age. There will be six visits over a period of three months. Eligible volunteers will receive study-related drugs, eye exams, and be compensated for time and travel.

For information, call or visit our website:

MetaClin Research

732-2444

www.metaclin.com

METACLIN
RESEARCH, INC.

Tired of Counting Sheep?



Do you have problems getting to sleep and staying asleep? Benchmark Research is currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication for occasional sleeplessness.

If you are male or female, at least 12 years of age or older, and have suffered from occasional sleeplessness over the past month, you may qualify to participate in this study.

Study participants will receive study-related physical exams and investigational medication.

Compensation up to \$150 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.

Participation in a trial is always at no cost to the participant.

Please call 1-800-369-2875
for more information

BENCHMARK

RESEARCH

www.benchmarkresearch.net

Are cold or flu-like symptoms making you miserable?

- Nasal Congestion
- Runny Nose
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Body Aches & Pains

If you are currently suffering from these symptoms, and are 18—65 years of age, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of cold and flu-like symptoms.



All study-related care and investigational medication is provided for qualified participants, and participation in a trial is always at no cost to the patient.

Compensation up to \$100 will be paid to qualified participants for their time and effort.

Please contact us today if you would like more information about participating in this clinical research study.

For more information, please call
1-800-369-2875
www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK

RESEARCH

GENERAL RESEARCH STUDIES

CONTINUED
REAL ESTATE
FREE REAL ESTATE SCHOOL
\$500.00+ per week while training sound good? Discover why good agents earn \$100,000+ Come to Tuesdays seminar for details call Melissa 380-0024
About Success Real Estate Academy

SATELLITE T.V. SALES
Satellite TV seller needs dynamic, outgoing people for our call center in S. Austin. We're seeking creative types who are quick learners. We offer flex. hours & a fun atmosphere for in-bound calls only. No telemarketing. Great pay for motivated, sales stars. Hiring now! E-mail us at HR@satcountry.com

SECURITY GOVERNMENT JOBS - Earn \$12-\$48.00/HOUR. Available with full medical/ dental benefits, and paid training on clerical, administrative, law enforcement, homeland security, wildlife, more! 1-800-320-9353 x2012. (AAN CAN)

TRAVEL A COOL TRAVEL job. Now hiring (18-24 positions). Guys/gals to work and travel entire USA. Paid training, transportation, lodging furnished. Call today, start today. 1-877-646-5050. (AAN CAN)

EMPLOYMENT Looking for a new job? Have to hire a new employee? Check out the great job opportunities in this week's *Austin Chronicle*. If you would like information on how to place an ad, call 454-5765.

AFRICAN AMERICAN/ HISPANIC/ASIAN?
Are you suffering from HIV/AIDS?

You may qualify for a research study that will pay you \$30 for about 40 minutes of your time.

For more information, please contact:
McMillion Research
1-800-969-9235
Reference Number: 3475

COMMON COLD ARE COLD OR FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS MAKING YOU MISERABLE?
• Nasal Congestion
• Runny Nose
• Cough
• Sore Throat
• Body Aches & Pains
If you are currently suffering from these symptoms, and are 18-65 years of age, you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for the treatment of cold and flu-like symptoms.
All study-related care and investigational medication is provided for qualified participants, and participation in a trial is always at no cost to the patient.
Compensation up to \$100 will be paid to qualified participants for their time and effort.
Please contact us today if you would like more information about participating in this clinical research study.
For more information, please call
1-800-369-2875
http://www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Fax us your 30 word ad by Friday, 5 pm in Motor, Roommates, For Sale, or Musician's Referral & we will run it free for two weeks. Please include your name, address & phone number or the ad will not run. This offer is limited to non-business advertising only. Fax: 512-458-6910

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

GLAUCOMA/OCULAR HYPERTENSION
EYE STUDY
Do you have open-angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension? If so, you may qualify to participate in a medical research study, performed by a board certified ophthalmologist.
MetaClin Research, Inc. is conducting a research study to evaluate a new investigational drug. To qualify, you must be at least 18 years of age. There will be six visits over a period of three months. Eligible volunteers will receive study-related drugs, eye exams, and be compensated for time and travel.
For more information call or visit our website:
MetaClin Research
732-2444
www.metaclin.com

DEPRESSION ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION?
Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?
• Sad or depressed mood
• Loss of interest in work or activities
• Change in appetite - over-eating or loss of appetite
• Change in sleep - over-sleep or insomnia
• Decrease in motivation
• Lack of energy
• Difficulty concentrating
Call to participate in an investigational medication study.
(512) 323-2622
www.communityclinical.com

DONOR PROGRAM FAIRFAX CRYOBANK
Seeks college educated men 20-40 to participate in 6 month donor program. Avg. \$150 per specimen. Call today for free application.
(512) 206-0871
www.gametedonors.com

GENITAL HERPES ITCHING, TINGLING, BURNING SENSATIONS, BLISTERS, RAISED RED BUMPS
Do you have itching, tingling, or burning sensations, blisters, or raised red bumps in the genital area that irritate, itch, or cause pain? Do you sometimes experience pain when urinating? We are looking for men and women at least 18 years old to participate in a clinical research study involving an investigational use of a marketed drug to treat genital herpes in people who are newly infected within the last 6 months. All study related office visits, medical exams, and study medications will be provided at no cost. For more information, please contact:
1-800-369-2875
http://www.benchmarkresearch.net

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BENCHMARK RESEARCH

OSTEOARTHRITIS DO YOU SUFFER FROM OSTEOARTHRITIS?
Would you be interested in a study of a Once-A-Day pain medication?
We are conducting a study with an already marketed pain relief medication in a new Once-A-Day tablet. This study is for men and women between the ages of 40-80 who have moderate to severe Osteoarthritis of the knee, and who are taking medications for treatment of pain related to Osteoarthritis on a regular basis.
If you are interested in participating or would like further information
PLEASE CALL US TODAY!
MetaClin Research, Inc.
732-2444
www.metaclin.com

RESEARCH STUDIES Clinical Study Volunteers Needed
Healthcare Discoveries Inc. is looking for people to volunteer for up-coming clinical research trials.
• A healthy male or female
• At least 18 years old
Depending on the research study, volunteers may be required to meet other qualifications. Qualified participants may receive compensation between \$500 and \$2,500 depending on the research trial.
To learn more, please call:
(210) 694-CARE (2273)
Or visit us on the web at: www.healthcare-discoveries.com

RESEARCH STUDIES
Problems and Diabetes? If you have kidney problems and type 2 diabetes, you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an oral investigational medication. In order to qualify, you must be 18 years or older and not using insulin to control your blood sugar. As a participant you will receive: Study related medication and care, Lab tests, Glucose monitoring supplies, Diet and exercise counseling all at no charge. Call today to learn more about the study and find out if you qualify for participation.
Central Texas Clinical Research (512) 480-9660

RESEARCH STUDIES
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Central Texas Clinical Research (512) 480-9660

RESEARCH STUDIES
Problems and Diabetes? If you have kidney problems and type 2 diabetes, you may be eligible to participate in a research study of an oral investigational medication. In order to qualify, you must be 18 years or older and not using insulin to control your blood sugar. As a participant you will receive: Study related medication and care, Lab tests, Glucose monitoring supplies, Diet and exercise counseling all at no charge. Call today to learn more about the study and find out if you qualify for participation.
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OSTEOARTHRITIS DO YOU SUFFER FROM OSTEOARTHRITIS?
Would you be interested in a study of a Once-A-Day pain medication?
We are conducting a study with an already marketed pain relief medication in a new Once-A-Day tablet. This study is for men and women between the ages of 40-80 who have moderate to severe Osteoarthritis of the knee, and who are taking medications for treatment of pain related to Osteoarthritis on a regular basis.
If you are interested in participating or would like further information
PLEASE CALL US TODAY!
MetaClin Research, Inc.
732-2444
www.metaclin.com

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Central Texas Clinical Research (512) 480-9660

SLEEPLESSNESS TIRED OF COUNTING SHEEP?
Do you have problems getting to sleep and staying asleep? Benchmark Research is currently conducting a clinical research study of an investigational medication for occasional sleeplessness.
If you are male or female, at least 12 years of age or older, and have suffered from occasional sleeplessness over the past month, you may qualify to participate in this study.
Study participants will receive study-related physical exams and investigational medication.
Compensation up to \$150 will be paid to eligible participants for their time and travel.
Participation in a trial is always at no cost to the participant. Please call for more information
1-800-369-2875
http://www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

YEAST INFECTION
If you are currently experiencing the itching, burning, irritation and/or swelling commonly associated with a yeast infection, then you may qualify to participate in a clinical research study.
Benchmark Research is currently seeking female volunteers who are age 12 or older, are in general good health, and who are currently suffering from vulvovaginal candidiasis (yeast infection.)
Qualified participants will receive at no cost:
• Study related exams
• Study related lab tests
• Investigational Medication
Eligible participants will also receive up to \$130 compensation for their time.

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HOME BUSINESS \$750 WEEKLY INCOME
potential mailing our sales letters from home. No experience necessary. Full/Part-time. Genuine opportunity. FREE supplies and postage. call 1-630-786-6633 (24 hours). (AAN CAN)

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HOME BUSINESS \$987.65 WEEKLY!
Use Google to Get Paid. No Experience Required. For More Information Call 1-866-622-9983 ext. 8676

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Integrity and Energy, has a \$250K+ 1st year potential. Don't Believe it? Don't Call! Call (800)881-1540 Ext 8215

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Answering Surveys Online! \$25-\$75 Per Survey! Guaranteed Paychecks. Process E-mails On-line \$25 Per E-mail. Mystery Shoppers Earn \$57.00/Hour Shopping! www.RealCashPrograms.com (AAN CAN)

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All CASH CANDY ROUTE! Do you earn \$800 in a day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 Machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. 1-800-807-6525 (AAN CAN)

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Doctor seeks 3 coachable, sincere, motivated ind. Not MLM. www.awellnessbiz.com

HOME BUSINESS \$600
weekly helping the government part time. No experience. A lot of opportunity. 1-800-493-3688 code Z31

HOME BUSINESS NO
Commute, Learn to earn \$10k+ a month, from home. 1-800-437-6954 or visit lworkfromhome4me.com

HOME BUSINESS \$3K-\$7K
Weekly Lucrative Industry. Internet Business. www.onlineideal.net

HOME BUSINESS \$250K-\$500K+
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Company for Sale. Well Established, Profitable. Vinyl Windows. Doors. Sun Rooms, etc. Only 100k upfront. 512-507-2300

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Get Paid To Shop! Mystery Shoppers Needed to Pose as Customers! Training Provided. FT/PT. CALL NOW!! 1-800-690-1273 (AAN CAN)

TRAVEL COOL JOB
Now hiring guys and gals to work, travel and play in the USA. Call Dalene at 1-877-207-0713. (AAN CAN)

Do you suffer from OSTEOARTHRITIS?

Would you be interested in a study of a Once-A-Day pain medication?

We are conducting a study with an already marketed pain relief medication in a new **Once-A-Day** tablet.

This study is for men and women between the ages of 40-80 who have moderate to severe Osteoarthritis of the knee, and who are taking medications for treatment of pain related to Osteoarthritis on a regular basis.

If you are interested in participating or would like further information
PLEASE CALL US TODAY!!

Metaclin Research, Inc.
732-2444
www.metaclin.com



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ROOMMATES

CEDAR PARK Room for rent, 2/2. Celeste 918-1357

CENTRAL \$350 ABP - M/F roommate wanted to share cute, but small 2/1 in East Austin. Includes hardwood floors, cable and internet. Contact Amy at 482-9359 or amytxanne@yahoo.com for further information.

CENTRAL \$330/mo. ASAP. F Seeking 20's M/F to take over my room in a 4-2 house on 33rd + duval. 3 M roomies. Great n'hood. WD, close to #7 bus, UT campus, I-35, and HEB. Cable internet + cash; tem-sy.chen@gmail.com.

CENTRAL \$425mo Prelease-1/05: Room in 3/2 house off W. 29th/Woolridge. Nice yard, pool, spacious, high ceilings, FP. Seeking clean, friendly, responsible M/F to share with 2 roommates. Also 1/3 bills and sec. dep. Call Rebecca @ 796-1569

CENTRAL \$475--4 bdrm/4 bath, need someone to take over my lease w/ 3 other boy roommates, hardwood floors, HUGE house off Airport on I35, close to UT. 254-722-3550

CENTRAL \$475. Townhouse. 3Bdr/2Ba. WD/DW. Pool, Tennis Court, AC, ... Senior Student at UT. 2 Car Garage. BethRose. To contact me, save my listing ID=H040610141346808 and find me on www.easyyroommate.com <http://www.easyyroommate.com/>

REAL ESTATE

CENTRAL \$475. House 3Bdr/2Ba. WD/DW. Storage, Yard, AC. Close to Campus and Downtown. 2 Living Rooms, Wireless Internet. Christina. To contact me, save my listing ID=H04112614958578 and find me on www.easyyroommate.com <http://www.easyyroommate.com/>

CENTRAL \$500. House 3Bdr/2Ba. WD/DW. Storage, Yard, Room Furnished, AC, Private Bath. Jessica. To contact me, save my listing ID=H041123212318913 and find me on www.easyyroommate.com <http://www.easyyroommate.com/>

CENTRAL 1940's 2/1 CACH Washer/Dryer Hardwoods fenced yard Eckert St. 10 minutes from UT/Downtown. \$850 mo. 380-0602

CENTRAL 350 Airport blvd/ Crestwood. 1940's 2br duplex. Spacious kitchen, lg yard. Early 30's UT student, cat. 15 min bike ride to UT. Bills avg \$75/mo. Storage. Avail Dec 1. Chay 374-9174 chaybly@yahoo.com

CENTRAL F sought. Serious student or professional to share roomy 3/2 with homeowner. Great neighborhood near 51st/IH-35. Quiet vegetarian household, two cats. \$525 926-2079

CENTRAL Female roommate 3/2 townhouse on UT shuttle. W/D pool tennis courts. 450 per month with 450 deposit. Electric included. 512-577-2384

CENTRAL Gay male looking for same to find 2br/2ba apartment in Travis Heights/Congress area. Employed, responsible, not too loud. 448-1031

CENTRAL Gay male seeks male for 2-1 condo, fireplace, W/D, cable, pool, hot tub, near bus, UT shuttle. \$400+elec., deposit. 419-4171

CENTRAL Lg bdrm w/own bath in a great house. Walk to campus. \$620 ABP (plus food)! Meals cooked 5 nights/wk. Rent includes everything (internet, all food, etc...) Great deal! 281-787-0992

CENTRAL Need a ROOMMATE Fast? Austin's #1 ROOMMATE SERVICE has ROOMMATEEXPRESS.COM. 800-487-8050

CENTRAL Need roommate to share 2/1 house at 2805 Lafayette, very near UT. Wood floors, high ceilings, wd, big kitchen. \$400/mo + utilities. Priced low bc roommate needed quickly. 809-1103

CENTRAL Room in nice 2/1; CA/CH; washer/dryer; fenced yard; pets welcome. 5 mins. from U.T. Quiet student or professional only. 413-8908

CENTRAL Seeking community minded female to share beautiful, funky, 4 bdrm home. Walk to Greenbelt/Barton Springs, W/D, cats ok. Loft w/office. \$300/mo. 441-7468

CENTRAL Students: Looking for a place to live Close to UT and ACC. Privt bath, cable, internet, and awesome roommate? If so, call David at 485-7210. I am looking for a replacement for the spring semester to take my lease over. Rent is \$410 a month.

CENTRAL/South. 3BDRM/1 Ba charming house, hardwood floors. NS, no pets, ceiling fans, large room(14x23), 2 large closets, private entrance, share with 2 other responsible, clean, open minded. 326-2482, 425\$+bills

DRIPPING SPRINGS Room for rent in Dripping Springs. Great house, nice view, fenced yard. 1m 26 male, fun and gay. Looking for someone who is laid back, and fun. \$400 per month. Call me at 512-858-0691

KYLE Room for rent. located just off I35 in kyle. 10 min north of san marcos. new home w/ all appl. \$350 + 1/3 bills. non-smokers only. call joe 512-773-9473 or email joe_crown@mail.utexas.edu

LAKEWAY All gay male household, furnished, prvt. phone line, PC w road runner, cable, pool, spa, W/D, No deposit. \$600/mo or \$150/wk Call Ron 266-1057

MANOR Two rooms for rent in 3 bdrm house. All house privileges. \$325 and 355 or both for \$475 (one person). \$100 dep; ABP 512-585-2306.

METRO ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM. Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: www.Roommates.com. (AAN CAN)

NORTH \$400 all included. House 4Bdr/3Ba. WD/DW, Storage, Room Furnished, AC, Closet. To share with 1 male & 2 females. ... More info, more listings on www.easyyroommate.com <http://www.easyyroommate.com/> save ID= H040380342

NORTH \$400/month! ABP! cable, internet, free. Need Furniture? Huge yard. Bus Stop/ Easy Access! 183/I-35/ MOPAC. CLEARFIELD DR.78758! 402-8384 (OR) room8@gmail.com

NORTH \$410. Apartment 2Bdr/Ba. Cable ready, Patio, WD/DW, Pool, Gym, AC, Private Bath. To contact me, save my listing ID=H0411271315683 and find me on www.easyyroommate.com <http://www.easyyroommate.com/>

NORTH Great 2-2-1, gorgeous Mopac&Far West, yard, balcony, FP, WD. Female seeks responsible, fun, clean male, N/S/N/P. \$400+1/2. 785-8667

NORTH large, sunny room available in nice happy house. Walk-in closet, built in bookshelves, overlooks backyard woods and garden. Many amenities. \$475 Call Art at 335-2783

NORTH Open-minded male seeking roommate near I-35/ Yager. A room in a nice 2-story house with a dog. Must be clean and responsible. \$500 abp (except telephone). deposit required 512-836-3070 or 512-685-6248.

NORTH Parmer & Metric area \$425.00 a month, 1/3 utilities. pets friendly, gay friendly. 507-8909 DNorcross@Austin.rr.com

NORTH Roommate needed for 3 bdrm dplx. Gay friendly. Must be dog friendly. 200, or 300 msbd. Near Northridge Campus. Call for details. 203-7496 or 507-9840

NORTH Room in 3 bdrm home in Block House Creek. Pools, tennis courts, basketball, parks, etc... Looking for mature adult to rent room until May for \$400 flat. Musician is a plus. Call 512-260-7870.

NORTH Seeking Female roommate to share large 2-2 apt in N. Austin. \$300/mo.+1/2bills. Pool, hot tub, gym, cable, cute small dog. Jackie@ 512-913-7954

NORTH Young, liberal male preferred; north central Austin on CR shuttle. Rent \$150 + 1/2 bills for right guy. Phil @ 220-7966, or email to preece@grandecom.net.

NORTH/CENTRAL Cute house, hardwood floors, many windows, big porch, nice kitchen, huge yard, dogs welcome. \$450. 663-6210

NORTHEAST Large 4 bdrm house \$225/mo + 1/4 bills, big pond in yard. By Reagan HS. Lot of gravity. 1204 East St. John 467-0551

NORTHEAST Spacious bdrm on 2-story cul-de-sac 3BR-2BA house. Walk-in closet. Quiet / safe n'hood. Close to IBM, Dell, Samsung. No pets/smoking/drugs. \$380/moth + dep. binh_chu@yahoo.com. 512-415-8632

NORTHWEST seeking roommate for cozy 4/2 House in AndersonMill. \$350, 1/3 bills, available now. Large room, own bath. No smoking. 249-6211

OAK HILL 1.5 acre, fenced yard, dog welcome. 3 bed/2 bath, 320 sq ft bdrm, your own entrance, porch, bath \$500 + bills cbeggs2001@yahoo.com

OAK HILL Looking for F roommate to share a nice 4+2 house in Oak Hill 5 mi. from downtown. Digital cable, fireplace, large yard, big kitchen \$300 288-9856

PFLUGERVILLE 3/2 1/2/2 home, master bedroom, pool, garden tub, garage. \$450 ABP call John at 990-7109

ROUND ROCK Nice Town home, 1 mstr Br \$495 w/ walk in closet, 2nd Br \$425, Divided Utilities. Out-side smoking, cat/Dog under 40lbs w/ deposit, W/D, tiled through out, 1 car garage. Ryan 512-653-9016

ROUND ROCK Mature responsible adult to share 3/2 house. Easy access to I35/ Mopac. \$375+1/3 utilis. + dep. Cell 512-297-6837

SAN MARCOS In country. Male or female gay or straight. Room w/bath \$325/mo ABP. Pet ok! 512-392-7880

SAN MARCOS Roommate needed to share great three bedroom house with art/studio space, lots of storage and huge yard. Walk to TX State. Pets and smokers okay. \$258/mo + 1/3 util. \$258 dep. Call 512-392-1334.

SOUTH 1 room for rent. All bills paid. Cable internet access. 2 other roommates 25-30 year old males in 4 bed 2 bath, huge house in S. Austin. Washer Dryer. call now 294-7428

SOUTH 1Bd Apt. 3 Roommates. 400 a month with utilities. Broadband included. First month free. For info: 717-487-5887; get@mail.utexas.edu

SOUTH 2 BR-\$260/each in lovely South Austin-Spacious 4 BR house-3 other male roommates-sweet location-call Sara 916-9427

SOUTH 2/1 375+1/2bills Nice house, W/D, big yard. Veg/ non-smoker pref. Quiet after 12 during week. Perfect for Grad Student. near Bus Rte. Avail now. 416-1374, relrath@gmail.com

SOUTH Big house 15 min S of downtown. HDTV, Pool Table. Cool neighborhood: heated pool, disc golf/golf, Rent \$425 mo to mo, call 627-3760

SOUTH EAST \$400. 3 BDr/ 2.5Ba. Alarm System, WD/ DW, Storage, AC, Private Bath. Full time student looking for a roommate. To contact me, save my listing ID=H041123162047866 and find me on www.easyyroommate.com

SOUTH GWM seeking N/S male housemate(s) for 3bdr / 2bth. CACH, spacious pvt back yard, W/D. Phone/Cable ready. On bus route. \$450 + 1/2 bills. 512-444-9478

SOUTH Female or couple for nice house. Private bath, private phone, private room, privacy fence, deck. \$345 ABP \$150 dep. 912-8839 Clothing optional environment.

SOUTH Roommate needed. 1 br in 2 br duplex 3 blks from S. Congress. \$400/mth + 1/2 of bills. no pets, no smoking. call 293-0772

SOUTH Room/bthrm avail in ranch-style duplex. Seeking 30-something, mature, CLEAN, respectful, responsible and friendly female. NS/ DRUGS/PETS. \$450 dep. 512-203-3048.

SOUTH S. Lamar/Barton Skyway. Roommate needed for 2br/1.5ba. Must be clean and responsible. No pets. \$377 mo. plus utilities. For more info call Ryan 773-3185 after 12pm.

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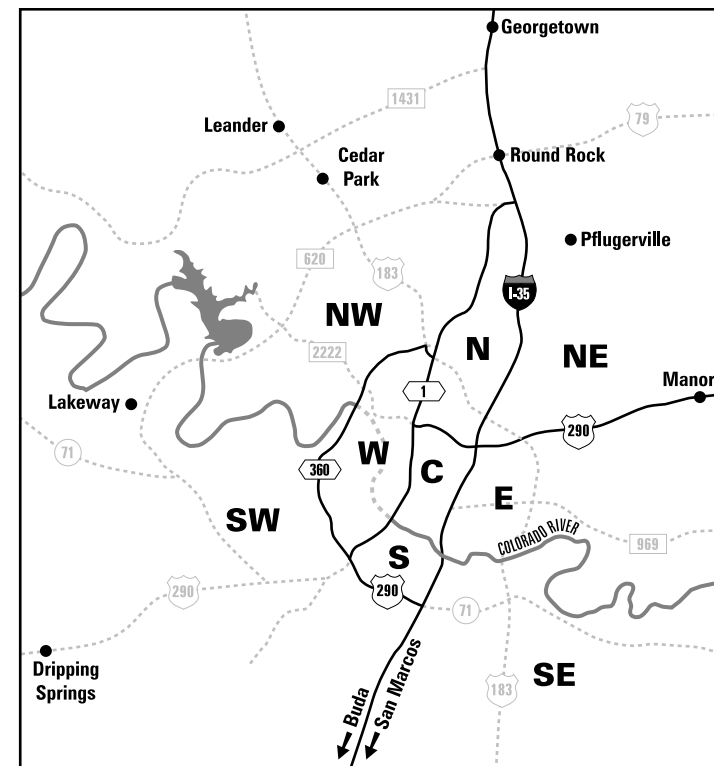
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- ☐ Set up new utilities
- ☐ Redirect magazine subscriptions
- ☐ Shop for competitive insurance rates
- ☐ Change address with post office
- ☒ Or just use Bank of America's free moving service

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the common law

by Luke Ellis

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Advance Directives – Do-Not-Resuscitate Order

Last week's column talked about Advance Directives to Physicians, Families or Surrogates, which allow a person to indicate choices about treatment in the event a person has a terminal or irreversible disease or condition. Remember that Advance Directives are documents used to help a person express their wishes about medical care. Today's column addresses another kind of Advance Directive recognized by Texas law –Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders.

A person who executes a DNR Order directs health care professionals acting in an out-of-hospital setting to withhold any medical intervention used to initiate or continue certain life-sustaining treatment. According to the Texas Attorney General's office, the Out-of-Hospital DNR is used most commonly when a person has a life-threatening or terminal illness and does not want assistance from a 911 emergency response. A person who has executed a valid Out-of-Hospital DNR Order can wear a DNR identification device around the neck or wrist (most people wear a DNR bracelet). The presence of a DNR identification device is conclusive evidence that the person has executed or issued a valid Out-of-Hospital DNR Order.

An Out-of-Hospital DNR Order must contain certain provisions, including a clear statement that the document is a DNR Order, the name of the person to whom it applies, and a statement by the attending physician. Keep in mind that the Out-of-Hospital DNR Order must also be signed in the presence of two witnesses who meet specific requirements. A health care provider or attorney should be able to provide information on how to properly execute the Out-of-Hospital DNR Order.

People who have serious health problems and do not wish to be resuscitated in the event of an emergency should give consideration to creating the Out-of-Hospital DNR Order. Like the other Advance Directives, the DNR Order can be created for free or for a very nominal fee. If someone changes their mind, the DNR Order can be revoked or overridden if the person is still competent to do so. More information about Texas advance directives is available from the Texas Department of Health (www.tdh.state.tx.us) and the Texas Attorney General (www.oag.state.tx.us).

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

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*Conditions apply. MLS - Mortgage Lending Solutions. 2499 Capital of Texas Hwy., Austin, TX 78746, A 200, 512-293-3229 (Melody). Broker Lic. #29522

**PROPERTIES
OF THE
WEEK!**
CENTRAL
• Price drop! Hardwood upgrades, completely remodeled 700 sq. ft. 1 bedroom, \$400! 1,000 sq. ft. 2 bedroom, \$521! Free utilities.
• Exclusive downtown SoCo. Open studio, \$600, all bills paid! 2 bedroom townhouse, washer/dryer included, most bills paid! \$875.
• Zilker Park studio on Barton Hills with private deck, \$425.
• Tarrytown/Clarksville small complex with hardwood floors, gas cooking & free cable. \$545.
• Classic, Bouldin Creek, hardwood floors, 2 BDRM flat \$720
• Industrial warehouse apartments, stained concrete floors throughout, open studio, \$439. 1 bedroom, \$539. 2 bedroom, \$649. Artist's Paradise! 4 bedroom, \$1099
• 1950's Downtown Congress studio flat, all bills paid, \$600!
• Hyde Park 1 bedroom, W/D connection, plus free high-speed internet, unbelievable! \$575
SOUTH CENTRAL
• Barton Springs, hardwood floors, 2BDRM, \$750! Free utilities!
• Travis Heights! Huge 1BDRM, 700sqft \$500. 2BD \$550! Walk to Stacy Park! Lowest price in years! Plus \$99 first month!
• BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park & Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom \$599. 2 bedroom \$690.
• Price Drop. washer/dryer connections in all units! 1 bedroom \$440. 2 bedroom \$625. Vaulted ceilings, private patios, pool and jacuzzi.
• Barton Hills Studio... \$439! 2 bedroom flat, \$639, rare find! Central living and free gas cooking!
• Huge 2 bedroom townhouse \$545 (over 1000 sqft!)
**CALL FOR SHOW!
416-8333**
TEAM LEASING



SOUTHWEST

360/MOPAC
Washer/Dryer in all units!
Studio \$405
1 BDRM... \$479
2 BDRM... \$599
Lowest price in years!

PRICE DROP
1 BDRM, W/D included,
50ft. from hike & bike trail,
\$520!

TEAM LEASING
416-8333



SOUTHWEST SOUTH CENTRAL BIG DOG friendly apartments right behind Zilker Park and Barton Creek Hike and Bike Trails. HUGE private deck. 1 bedroom \$599. 2 bedroom \$690, Call Team Leasing 416-8333

SOUTH South Central/Travis heights, small community studio... \$425. Walk to Stacy Park. Bouldin Creek small complex, hardwood floors. 1/1, \$650, 2/1, custom tile floors, \$650. (cable paid on both) Call Team Leasing, 416-8333.

HOUSES/DUPLEXES FOR RENT

BUDA 16212 Oxbow Trail, 4/2, Small acreage, Horse ok, \$1,195/\$800 Security. Bonds & Dotson 326-5519

CEDAR PARK/RR/NW
HALF MONTH FREE!!
Cedar Park: 4/2 house New flooring, oven, m-wave, paint. Lg master. 802 Brookside Pass-\$1050. W. Round Rock: 3/2 house w/ new oven, m-wave, vinyl. Huge master. 3108 Monument-\$995. RR: 2/1/1 duplex w/recent appl. 1105-A Country Aire-\$595. NW: 2/2/1 duplex, f/p. 8701-A Piney Pt. PREM 848-4405

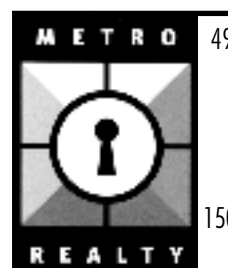
CEDAR PARK Search 9K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to \$30K in free upgrades. Foreclosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for \$0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

CENTRAL 2/1 CACH, W/D, refrig, gas stove, hardwoods, carport, fenced yard \$850 eckerhouse@gmail.com

CENTRAL 2/1 cute Hyde Park bungalow, hardwoods, original built-ins, CACH, W/D, pets OK, great front porch. 4504 Ave. C unit A, \$1100/mth. 459-5115

CENTRAL 2/1 with carport. 1184 Navasota, remodeled kitchen & bath. Refurbished hardwoods throughout! \$995! MRG 443-2526.

CENTRAL Cherry Place cute 2-1, 3309 Cherrywood. Fenced yard, Wood floors. Avail Now. \$750. Call PMT 476-2673



4904 Smokey Valley 2-2.5, \$1000

2410 Audubon 2-1 \$690 Avail. NOW

1500 A Braes Rdg. 2-1 \$775 Tile/New Carpet

310 Franklin 4-2 \$1295. Great for roommates.

404 Franklin 3-1, \$900

Towers of Town Lake 2-2 \$1600 furnished! Lake View.

2514-C Hartford 2/1 \$1000 Available Now!

METRO REALTY 479-1300
www.utmetro.com

CENTRAL 2704: Modern
2br dplx, \$725. 2-2 condo, \$750. 3-2 house, garage, big fenced yard, \$995. Pets OK. 627-6374.

CENTRAL 78704 near
SOCO. 1bd/1ba house; w/d hookups; fenced yard; pets ok; 1st mo rent+dep. req. \$975/mo. 784-6886

CENTRAL 78704 near SOCO. 1bd/1ba house; w/d hookups; fenced yard; pets ok; 1st mo rent+dep. req. \$975/mo. 784-6886

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE! WELCOME HOME LEASING.COM
554-2920 office
450-1526 cell

I also have homes for sale!
11604 NORWEGIAN WOOD
-Gracy Woods- near ACC Northridge, 2/2 town home, approx. 1000 sq. ft. large vaulted living with FP, new carpet/paint, garage, \$850

903 EAST OLTORF - Travis Heights -3/2.5, 2 story condo, brick approx. 1530 sq. ft., huge bedrooms \$950

3803 B DUVAL - Hyde Park- large 2/1 w/ bonus room, approx. 1050 sq. ft., hardwood floors, 10 ft. ceilings, \$800

5010 EILERS - Hyde Park- 4/2 house approx. 1346 sq. ft., CACH, appliances, fenced, pets ok \$1500

CENTRAL 12305 Black Angus. 3/2, has pool, \$1295. ONE MONTH FREE! Mason Properties, 343-0853

CENTRAL 1212 Hollowcreek/4plx. Near Zilker, 2/1, fenced \$695. 1 MONTH FREE! Mason Properties 343-0853

CENTRAL 2 Bdrm-1 Ba, W/D, balcony, hard wds, 5 min. to UT, \$795. Avail. Dec. Pets welcome 663-1967

CENTRAL 2 story, upstairs, duplex in Travis Heights. Large 2-1 with dishwasher, refrigerator, hardwoods. walk to Stacey Park! 1013-B Bonham Terrace. Available now. Call for more info- Cindy at Lanier Realty 825-4663

CENTRAL 2 story, upstairs, duplex in Travis Heights. Large 2-1 with dishwasher, refrigerator, hardwoods. walk to Stacey Park! 1013-B Bonham Terrace. Available now. Call for more info- Cindy at Lanier Realty 825-4663

CENTRAL 2500-B Trailside Close to Zilker Park 2/1 sunken livingroom vaulted ceilings, carport covered patio w/ yard laundry hook-ups, storage vanity in master BR \$850, Call Janine 293-9953

CENTRAL 700 sq ft 2/1 cottage remodeled into open studio/loft space. Amenities include central heat/air, nice wood floors, new electrical/plumbing, metal roof, big landscaped yard, swell neighbors, walking distance to downtown and hike & bike trail. Could also be used as a nice recording studio or art gallery. Free wi-fi. Cats ok. 1301 Willow. Available Nov. 25th. \$800/mo. Call Taylor 773-0417

Leases through May!
OWNER MANAGED!
451-0988



CENTRAL *TRAVIS HEIGHTS* Eclectic back house 1 brm plus ofc. with trendy oak, wood floors, & clawfoot bath, renovated kitchen, CACH, very quiet, w/d/con, carport, small private yard, quiet pets considered. \$995. 1/2 1ST MONTH! Owner/agent Wendy 916-0018

CENTRAL 12305 Black Angus. 3/2, has pool, \$1295. ONE MONTH FREE! Mason Properties, 343-0853

CENTRAL 1212 Hollowcreek/4plx. Near Zilker, 2/1, fenced \$695. 1 MONTH FREE! Mason Properties 343-0853

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CENTRAL 2/1 duplex in Barton Hills. Fenced yard, carport, W/D Conn, walking distance to Zilker. Available NOW! \$875.00. Call The Taylor Co for info 481-8600.

CENTRAL 2500-B Trailside Close to Zilker Park 2/1 sunken livingroom vaulted ceilings, carport covered patio w/ yard laundry hook-ups, storage vanity in master BR \$850, Call Janine 293-9953

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2br dplx, \$725. 2-2 condo, \$750. 3-2 house, garage, big fenced yard, \$995. Pets OK. 627-6374.

CENTRAL 78704 near
SOCO. 1bd/1ba house; w/d hookups; fenced yard; pets ok; 1st mo rent+dep. req. \$975/mo. 784-6886

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3803 B DUVAL - Hyde Park- large 2/1 w/ bonus room, approx. 1050 sq. ft., hardwood floors, 10 ft. ceilings, \$800

5010 EILERS - Hyde Park- 4/2 house approx. 1346 sq. ft., CACH, appliances, fenced, pets ok \$1500

CENTRAL Crestview - cute, TINY 2-1 house, W/D connections, gigantic yard, nice carpet, cats and friendly dogs welcome! \$675. 2107 Richcreek. Matthews Properties, 454-0099, 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Delwood, huge retro 2/1 duplex, hardwoods, fireplace, 2 dining, large bedrooms, indoor W/D connections, yard mowed, small fenced backyard, garage (shared). Cats and smaller dogs welcome! \$995. 1105-A Bentwood, Matthews Properties, 454-0099, 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Enfield Elegance, 2605 Enfield, Spacious 2-1, Gated 10 ft ceilings, covered parking, pool. Avail NOW \$800. Call PMT 476-2673

CENTRAL Fabulous 2-2 duplex, convenient north central location nestled in with single-family homes, fenced yard, big trees, 1-car garage \$675/mth. Call Bob, Owner/ Realtor: 794-9292 ex. 113

CENTRAL Gigantic 2-2 2 living (or 3rd bedroom), large patio w/small yard, new carpet/vinyl, CACH, all appliances, indoor W/D connections. Friendly pets welcome! 15 minutes to Shuttle, on busline. Avail. now or Jan. Super deal at \$795! 8612-A Bowling Green. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rolloxtex@yahoo.com.

CENTRAL Hyde Park quiet cottage community- Spacious 2-2 duplexes, CA/CH, all appliances. Water paid. Laundry on-site. 4307 Caswell-B \$795 (also gas paid), 4307-D \$850 (fenced yard maintained). Cats ok on #B, also will take dogs on #D. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rolloxtex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Hyde Park, spacious pet friendly 2/1 duplex, CA/CH, new carpet & vinyl, covered parking, W/D connections, small yard. \$875. 703-B E. 45th, Matthews Properties 454-0099, 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Hyde Park big 2/1. Hardwoods, CACH, W/D room. Huge yard, pet-friendly, \$825mo. Call 775-2009.

CENTRAL HYDE PARK. 2/1 house on 45th St with hardwood floors, large master bedroom. Reduced rent due to future construction. Only \$700.00. Ready for Move-in. Call The Taylor Company, Inc. at 512-481-8600.

CENTRAL Live in this amazing updated 2 story home/loft. Beautiful hardwoods, gas fireplace, new kitchen and stainless appliances w/gas range. Your own private entrance, and parking too. W/D included; 2/1 on main level with large bonus room on upper level for your work or pleasure. Enjoy the 1930's character downstairs with a large bonus room up. Come see the views of the capital and more. \$1695/month Pets negotiable. Call owner at 512-689-6862

CENTRAL main house, 3-2, W/D, w/ Studio eff. in back. 604 Hammack, between Guadalupe & Lamar, \$1200/mo. \$1500 DP. 477-1163

CENTRAL Old Enfield, unique 2/1 in 4-plex, quiet neighbors, saltillito tile, fireplace, CA/CA, large patio with small yard, skylights, lots of windows, gas (heating, cooking, hot water) & water paid! Small pets welcome. \$895. 1603 Woodlawn. Matthews Properties 454-0099, Rolando 731-6799, rolloxtex@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Travis Heights 2/1. Hardwoods, pet-friendly, \$695mo! Call today for info 775-2009.

CENTRAL Walk to Town Lake, Bouldin Creek views, FREE gas/cable, \$99 deposit, 1bd \$650, 2bd \$725. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL 2 story, W/D connections, central air and heat, ceramic tile downstairs, dishwasher, disposal, dual master suites. Sprinkler system, pets ok. 2006-A Kirksey Drive 78741. Water is paid. 2 reserved parking spaces. Clean!!!!!! Deposit \$550. Available for immediate move-in. \$650/month Broker. 512-478-7100

CENTRAL
Properties for Lease
• 4504 Elwood 4-2 \$1395
• 2410 Audubon, 2-1 \$690 Available NOW!
• 1500 A Braes Rdg. 2-1 \$775 Tile/New Carpet.
• 310 Franklin 4-2 \$1295 Great for Roommates
• 404 Franklin, 3-1 \$900
• Towers of Townlake 2-2 \$1600 - FURNISHED!
Lake View
• 2514-C Hartford 2/1 \$1000 Available Now! **METRO REALTY** 479-1300 **www.utmetro.com**

CENTRAL Remodeled 2/1 in quiet Crestview, new kitchen and bath, oak floors, fireplace, CACH, dishwasher, w/d connections, garage, fenced in back yd, available now! 1509 W. St. Johns, \$1000, 472-2123

CENTRAL ROSEDALE: W. 39 1/2 duplexes. 1103-B: 2/1, \$995. 1203-A: 2/1, \$950. 1201-A: 1/1, \$685. Big fenced yard, CACH, free W/D, no common walls. Near Seton, C. Market. Pets OK. 916-0000. www.novatus.net

CENTRAL Search 9K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to \$30K in free upgrades. Foreclosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for \$0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

CENTRAL Tarrytown, quiet 2/1 duplex, new carpet & vinyl, covered parking, fireplace, CA/CH, large patio, all appliances, indoor W/D connections, outside storage. Small pets welcome! \$925. 2804-A Warren. Matthews Properties 454-0099, 914-1233, nancylemmons@yahoo.com

CENTRAL Townlake Luxury Riverwalk Condo, 500 Riverside, Huge 2Bd, Hardwoods, Granite, The works! \$950. Call Suzan Agent 413-7645

CENTRAL Travis Heights 2/1. Hardwoods, pet-friendly, \$695mo! Call today for info 775-2009.

CENTRAL Walk to Town Lake, Bouldin Creek views, FREE gas/cable, \$99 deposit, 1bd \$650, 2bd \$725. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

CENTRAL 2 story, W/D connections, central air and heat, ceramic tile downstairs, dishwasher, disposal, dual master suites. Sprinkler system, pets ok. 2006-A Kirksey Drive 78741. Water is paid. 2 reserved parking spaces. Clean!!!!!! Deposit \$550. Available for immediate move-in. \$650/month Broker. 512-478-7100

EAST /Riverside 2005 Kenneth, great duplex on UT shuttle, 3bd 2 ba was 1225 now 895, fenced yard, CACH. W/D included, pets welcomed. Call PMT 476-2673; 289-4261

EAST Travis Heights, close to Dwtin & UT, 1511 Oak Heights, Newly remodeled, 3/2, \$895 Cash 585-0800

GEORGETOWN 3-bed/2-bath duplex w/ garage, fenced yard, W/D conn, new paint and carpet. Avl NOW!! Reduced! \$795.00. Call The Taylor Company 481-8600.

METRO NORTH
• 7920 Rockwood 1/1 updated, some bills pd. \$695
• 1011 Cripple Creek 3/2, 2liv, 2G. \$995
• 6004 Lost Trail 4/3, 3G 1.75 ac. Views \$2500
SOUTH
• 4707 Sylvandale 3/2, wood floors, fenced. \$895.
• 3707 Harper's Ferry 3/2, MIL, 2G, \$1075
• 5103 Summerset 3/2, 2G, fenced \$1095
HUTTO
• 116 Marlyn Cv. 3/2, 1G, fenced, \$750
Carrie, Agent 801-0436
Austin REAL Pros,
REALTORS 458-3730



NORTH /Central, 8300 Kromer 3 bd 1 ba, large fenced yard, pets welcomed! Stainless kitchen with tile floors! CACH W/D \$1045 Call PMT 476-2673 or 289-4261

NORTH 4 Bedrooms, 1107 Cripple Creek, Two Living areas, Fenced Yard, Garage. Available Now. \$950. Call PMT 476-2673

NORTH FREE! 4-2 near 183/35. Huge master, fenced yrd, hrdwds, 1950sf, pets welcome. \$1150. Move in now. No rent till 1/1/05. 323-0159.

NORTH Huge 3/2/1, \$995 - dep. \$700, 1200 sf, PSID, near Dell & park, NO DOGS, Avail Jan 1 719-4281

NORTH CENTRAL 2-1 Duplex \$650, 895sqft, walk-in closets, w/d conn, carport, pet welcome. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.



NORTH Change your life... change your address! Incredible makeover, 2-3 bedrooms w/tile floors, new carpet & paint, crown moulding, 1-car garage, fenced yard. All new appliances, sinks, light fixtures. Metric/Braker area. Available now or Pre-lease. Call today. TPM Pioneer Property Mgmt. (512) 293-2887.

NORTH East, I-35 Farmer, \$879 lease only / \$929 to lease purchase, 3B-1BA, 1 car. MOVE IN NOW. like new. decorator touches; HARDWOOD FLOORS, ceramic floors, Cred appl req. BAD, NO CREDIT? LETS TALK! 496-2548

NORTH Northcrest Blvd/183 area. 2/1, 850 sq. ft. fenced yard, CA/CH, laundry area, W/D conn. Outside storage, carport, sec. 8 ok, pet ok. \$650/mo \$325/Dep 587-8090

NORTH Search 9K+ homes on-line! New homes, up to \$30K in free upgrades. Foreclosures=Great deals. Resale homes, use grants for \$0 down! 785-9157, agt. http://www.MrDreamHome.com

NORTHWEST Austin 2/1.5 duplex, 1 car garage, W/D conn., fireplace, fenced yard, new carpet & paint. RRISD schools. 8410 A Fathom Circle. \$695. Available now. 258-5927.

NORTHWEST 2/1.5 duplex off Far West and Hart Lane. Two story, fireplace, large master bed w/ walk-in closet. W/D Conn, one-car garage and fenced yard. \$850. Call The Taylor Company for more info 512-481-8600.

ROUND ROCK 3304 RETA, 3/2.5 \$995, 1st month FREE! Mason Properties 343-0853

ROUND ROCK 3-2 duplex with garage and fenced backyard, pets welcome \$750. APARTMENT EXPERTS North 339-4411 South 416-8100 agent

ROUND ROCK FORECLOSURE 3/2/ 1600 sqft, \$87K, large trees, LEASE TO OWN, built 1994, POND, STORAGE SHED, Call 762-2466. http://www.home-recon.com

ROUND ROCK 2-bed/1.5 bath duplex on Nicole Cr. Two-story, fireplace, yard, garage, W/D Conn. Available NOW! \$650.00. Call The Taylor Company, Inc. for more info. (512) 481-8600.

SOUTH *ECCLECTIC* S. LAMAR, 1/2 OFF FIRST MONTH, funky stained concrete flrs, quiet, treed, triplex, 2-2, W/D conn. private yard, good pets considered, \$850. Agent 916-0018

SOUTH /Brodie Ln. HUGE! 3-bed/2-bath w/saltillito tile throughout, Fireplace, two-car garage, fenced yard and indoor hot tub. Call The Taylor Company 512-481-8600.

SOUTH /Central. 2005 Bouldin, 2 bd 1 ba House. Wood floors, W/D conn. Large fenced yard, pets welcome. \$800 Call PMT 476-2673; 289-4261

SOUTH Central. REDUCED! Exceptional 2-1 duplex, quiet neighborhood, new paint & ceramic tile, covered carport between units, minutes from downtown, near Manchaca/ Lamar, \$795, Charlie. 517-3959 or 517-6614.

SOUTH 3/1 5908 Cedardale, near Stassney & S. 1st, very nice, quiet street, \$900. Section 8 OK. 784-6890

SOUTH 3bdrm-2ba house, Big backyard, W/D, Avl Now. \$1050. Call Rich, agent. 577-7049.

SOUTH 5703 Jacaranda. 2/1 fenced \$550. 1 MONTH FREE! Mason Properties, 343-0853

SOUTH Callahan's. 183 & 71. 811 Patton Spacious 3-1 huge fenced yard. Bonus room. Avail Now \$625 Call PMT 476-2673

SOUTH CENTRAL Hardwood, ceramic tile, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garages, 4bed-3bath house \$1250. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.



SOUTH CENTRAL, 1715-A Taylor Gaines rare 1BDRM duplex w/utility room, carport, and huge yard. \$495! MRG 443-2526.

SOUTH CENTRAL, Oltorf and Burleson. 4/3 bath house with two fireplaces. Ceramic tile, hardwood floors, large fenced yard. Available NOW! Only \$1250.00 Call The Taylor Company for more information 512-481-8600.

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- Zinfandel Apts. 2 blks from UT
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HOUSES/DUPLEXES FOR RENT

CONTINUED
SOUTH Cherry Creek. 4-bed/3-bath two-story house on Lagerway Cove. Indoor utility room, two-car garage, large fenced yard. Ready for move-in! REDUCED!
\$1295.00. Call The Taylor Company at 512-481-8600.

SOUTH HUD FORECLOSURES duplex, MINOR REPAIRS! Live on one side, live for free. LEASE TO OWN 512-587-3241. Broker VIEW FORECLOSURES AT http://www.home-recon.com

REAL ESTATE Find all the great apartment specials in the *Austin Chronicle's* Real Estate section.

SOUTH Just remodeled open concept duplex 2/1.5 with gleaming stained concrete floors, fireplace, carpet and lots of storage, approx. 1200 sq ft. Fenced in yard. Small pets welcome. Pet deposit add'l. 1501 Cinnamon Path. Call 512-689-6862 for your appointment.

SOUTH Large, 5 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage. Huge living area. Hays CISD, 15 mins. to Downtown!
\$1,350/mo. Call 826-0364.

SOUTH Musicians! Large 5/2, Hrd flrs, Great location, Nr. Ruta Maya. 207 Lessin Ln.
\$1495/mo. 12/1 443-9224

SOUTH Reduced Rent, Clean, 3/2/2, off Slaughter, 1249 sq. ft, CACH, NS, \$999/mo. Call 512-794-6663.

SOUTHEAST Near Airport, 90608 Bear Paw, 2/2/1, \$625/400 Security, new carpet, tile & paint. Fireplace. Bonds & Dotson. 326-5519

SOUTHWEST Newly remodeled 2/2 crpt. W/D, FP, cer. tile, burber carpet, new appl. M/I special. 819 Sirocco. Pet friendly. \$800 OBO. 512-699-3539 or 512-238-1280

SOUTHWEST 2-1 Duplex \$595, 1100sqft, w/d in unit, fireplace, ready to move-in, pet welcome. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

SOUTHWEST No deposit, in-door basketball court, aerobics center, studio \$543, 1bd \$585, 1-1 study \$622, 2bd \$640, 3bd \$913. Avignon Realty 236-0002, www.avignonrealty.com.

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FOR SALE

BASTROP New houses for zero down and zero closing costs! The Winter Team-Coldwell Banker can get you into a new home for the holidays. It is easier than you think. Visit www.winterteam.com for details or call 512-947-3900

CEDAR PARK Great Starter Home in Buttercup Creek at 605 Bristlewood Cove. 3/2 on cul de sac; Home is in wonderful condition; New Carpet throughout home; 1532 sqft; Home Warranty through October 2005; only \$122,000; \$0 down \$990 a month (with approved credit); See this home on www.787homes.com or call **Kyle with Hillhouse Realty, Inc. at 512-663-2925**

CEDAR PARK - Rent 2 Own 3/2.5/2 Huge lot, trees. Start at \$1297/mo. Extras! Call 866-506-0624 24hr rec msg

CEDAR PARK FORECLOSURE 97K, 3/2 near Lakeline, needs paint, BID OR TLC. LEASE TO OWN THIS ONE! http://www.home-recon.com

CENTRAL
TeamJhomes.com
See every home in the MLS
Plus sign up for free automatic email updates of homes that meet your needs.

CENTRAL 1800 Ridgemont. 3/2 with garage apartment in sought after Delwood Subd. In need of foundation repair, but lots of potential. Huge yard with lots of trees. 1800 Ridgemont Dr. \$174,500 bring offers. CALL PATRICIA - 845-3637 CASA BLANCA REALTY

CENTRAL 3/2 1500sqft, BANK FORECLOSURE, needs cosmetics, huge yard, Investors Welcome! BID OR LEASE TO OWN! Call 762-2466. http://www.home-recon.com

CENTRAL Are you a First time homebuyer? Call me before you choose a builder. I can help you save money on your new home. Marie Coleman, Realty World. 461-5181 or visit austinhomeadvantage.com

CENTRAL Come home to Hyde Park! 1909 Woodburn House. City Landmark, exquisitely restored family home with six bedrooms, 6.5 baths, (two large master suites) wrap-around porches. 4401 Avenue D \$995,000-Lin Team, Old Austin Realtor **512-472-1930** **www.TheKinneyCompany.com**

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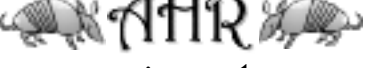
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MISSING PERSON Anyone know the whereabouts of Robert Brent Brownlow? Date of Birth, 7-22-1952. Contact his sister, Cheryl (325)646-3979

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS Cause No. GV201583
To: BRENT JONES Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 20th day of December, 2004, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 299th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 30th day of May, 2002, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GV201583, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and \$2,335.00 U.S. Currency Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: ON OR ABOUT THE 14TH DAY OF MAY, 2002, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 3rd day of November, 2004. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Angela Riley, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ROBERT SMITH, ASST. DIST. ATTY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9400

NOTICES

answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 20th day of December, 2004, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 299th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 30th day of May, 2002, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GV201583, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and \$2,335.00 U.S. Currency Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: ON OR ABOUT THE 14TH DAY OF MAY, 2002, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 3rd day of November, 2004. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Angela Riley, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ROBERT SMITH, ASST. DIST. ATTY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9400

P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Angela Riley, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ROBERT SMITH, ASST. DIST. ATTY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9400

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS Cause No. GV304673
To: GODOY MARCIAL HERNADEZ Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 20th day of December, 2004, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 390th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 26th day of November, 2003, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GV304673, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and \$3,000.00 U.S. Currency Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: ON OR ABOUT THE 1ST DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2003, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 3rd day of November, 2004. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Angela Riley, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ROBERT SMITH, ASST. DIST. ATTY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9400

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS Cause No. GV302709
To: RODOLFO DELEON, III Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the 20th day of December, 2004, and answer the ORIGINAL NOTICE OF SEIZURE & FORFEITURE of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 299th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 7th day of July, 2003, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GV302709, in which THE STATE OF TEXAS Plaintiff(s), and \$1,741.00 U.S. Currency Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: ON OR ABOUT THE 12TH DAY OF JUNE, 2003, THE AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT, LOCATED AT 715 E. 8TH STREET, AUSTIN, TEXAS, SEIZED THE ABOVE CONTRABAND, WHICH WAS USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED IN THE COMMISSION OF A FELONY PURSUANT TO ART. 59.01 OF TEX. CODE CRIM. PROC. ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 4th day of November, 2004. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Alejandra Chapa, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ROBERT SMITH, ASST. DIST. ATTY P.O. BOX 1748 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767 (512) 854-9400

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS Cause No. GN402135
To: ROSEMARY RIOS Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock a.m. of Monday the 27th day of December, 2004, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 126th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, on the 29th day of October, 2004, a default judgment may be taken against you. Said suit being number GN402135, in which MARYAM GHARBI Plaintiff(s), and ROSEMARY RIOS Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows: BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD FROM THE TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES: LOTS 184, 186, 187, AND 191, POINT VENTURE SECTION TWO-B, REPLAT OF LOTS 1, 01, 11, AND 12, A SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN VOLUME 61, PAGE 72, PLAT RECORDS, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, WHICH PROPERTIES (THE "SUBJECT PROPERTY") ARE LOCALLY KNOWN AS 515 DEMARETT DRIVE #17, 511 DEMARETT DRIVE #15, 509 DEMARETT DRIVE #14, AND 501 DEMARETT DRIVE #10, RESPECTIVELY, LAGO VISTA, TEXAS 78645.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, this the 9th day of November, 2004. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk 1000 Guadalupe P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By /s/ Ellie Castro, Deputy REQUESTED BY: ALLEN CRAIG 3724 JEFFERSON STREET #305 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78731 (512) 407-8655 FAX: (512) 407-8840

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ELMER JUNIOR MCCOY, Deceased, Cause No. 82124, in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. FLORENCE MAE MCCOY, alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 17th day of NOVEMBER, 2004 an Application to Determine Heirship and Application for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration in the said estate and requests that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ELMER JUNIOR MCCOY, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interest in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should

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LEGAL NOTICES

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they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 17th day of November, 2004. DANA DEBEAUVOIR, County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 1748 Austin, Texas 78767 By Deputy: /s/ Marie Clark

NO. 82078
IN RE: ESTATE OF CARLOS GUZMAN GUERRERO, DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary of the estate of CARLOS GUZMAN GUERRERO, DECEASED, were issued on November 23, 2004, in Docket Number 82078, pending in the PROBATE COURT NO. 1, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, to BERTHA PRADO GUERRERO, Independent Executrix. The address of record for Bertha Prado Guerrero is 3710 Tower View Court, Austin, Texas 78723. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 23rd day of November, 2004. /s/ BERTHA PRADO GUERRERO, Independent Executrix

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Culvert Pipe, IFB B050026-DR
Opens: December 13, 2004 @ 11:00 a.m.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Peace Officer Compensation Study, RFS S050021-ML
Opens: December 20, 2004 @ 10:00 a.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2004 @ 1:30 P.M.

2. PROFESSIONAL AUDITING Services, Travis County Hospital District, RFS S050019-JW
Opens: December 27, 2004 @ 10:00 a.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 9, 2004 @ 10:00 A.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

NOTICE

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
IFB NUMBER: B050018-RV

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for Water Damage Remediation, Mold Damage Remediation and Decontamination Services job order contract located in Austin, Texas, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701 until 2:00 P.M., CST, DECEMBER 14, 2004**, then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office, will serve as the**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Tanglewood Self Storage and Absolute Stor-N-Lok Mini Storage wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notices of public sale under said Act to Wit: This sale will be held on December 16, 2004 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Tanglewood Self Storage, 9910 Slaughter Creek Dr., Austin, Texas, continuing on to Absolute Stor-N-Lok Mini Storage, 1607 Matthews Lane, Austin, Texas 78745. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS", "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. We reserve the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain household furniture unless otherwise noted. TANGLEWOOD SELF STORAGE, 9910 Slaughter Creek Dr., Austin, TX 78748, (512) 282-7807; Isaac Armstrong-desk, chair, bed, dresser, mirror; Ricky Luna-end table, coffee table, shop va, toys, speakers, ice chest, lawn tools; Mike Johnson-playwood, fence material, life jacket boxes, bags, exercise machine, table; Mike McMillen-gas cans, ladder bench, boxes, wire spool, tv; Johnny Mynhier-file cabinet, bench, porch swing, dresser, lawn furniture, stereo cabinet, golf bag, boxes, lawn tools; Lynn Kite-cherry wood furniture, clothing shelving, boxes (100), stereo equip.; Lynn Kite-steam vac., microwave, floor lamp, tv, vacuum, word processor, fridge; Lynn Kite-stereo equip, dog pen, cabinets, boxes; John Folkes - boxes, trunk, fans, ladder, microwave, weights; Praetner Cooper SR - boxes, sleeping bag, clothes, tools; Kristin Johnson - toys, stereo, shelf, boxes, clothes; Deborah Payton- microwave, patio furniture, lamp. ABSOLUTE STOR-N-LOK MINI STORAGE, 1607 Matthews Lane, Austin, TX 78745, Contact Gately (512) 442-5021: Chad Ottino- personal and electrical items; Ray Stalik - fencing material; Fitzpatrick Fontenot-black Nissan pick up; Christian McColgan-VW pickup; Jana Wolf - Chevett; Louis Kanellakis - toys, household items; John Arzola-appliances, house ware items; Thomas Rozen- electronics; James Roberts - books, misc. household items; Rose Degollado - ceramic tiles, misc.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at the following addresses; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on **Monday, Dec. 20, 2004 at 9:30 AM.** No one under 16 allowed. Auctioneer: Luther Davis, TX. Lic. #8325. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #276 (formerly known as Michener Self Storage)
1251 County Road 170 Round Rock, TX 78664 (512) 310-0279
#2219 - Kevin T. Mcawley - 3 camper shells, dolly, refrigerator, twin mattress
#2231 - Lawrence E. Williams - dryer, TV, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, misc. Christmas
#3113 - Frederick Mccumtray, Jr. - washer & dryer
#3114 - Benson R. Hodde - sail board, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, TV
#3315 - Pamela K. Ward - file cabinets, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, conswew sewing machine, misc. auto & tools
#4124 - Timothy H. Jones - admiral refrigerator, table saw, exercise machine, misc. boxes, stereo equipment
#4134 - David Call - whirlpool refrigerator, dryer, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, misc. household goods
#4208 - Pamela K. Ward - misc. shelves, misc. boxes, wood trunk
#4210 - Traci L. Caillouet - bicycle, misc. furniture, misc. LP's, misc. boxes
#4227 - Celina M. Matias - misc. furniture, misc. boxes, misc. household goods
#4322 - Denise B Fair - misc. furniture, misc. boxes, bosc radio, pictures
#5113 - Robert Rivas - kitchen table & chairs, microwave
#5214 - David G. Vitela - 2 TVs, misc. furniture & appliances, misc. boxes
#5227 - Lisa A. Becker - old dresser, cedar chest, shelf unit, twin mattress & springs
#5307 - Debra K Kelso - refrigerator, freezer, tire, tools, mattress, misc. boxes
#5331 - David Reed - misc. furniture, dryer, misc. boxes
#5335 - Timothy S Allen - sofa, loveseat, refrigerator, dining chairs, misc. household
#5414 - Michael Simpson - washer, computer, misc. household goods, misc. boxes
#6120 - Rodney E Penn - misc. furniture, misc. boxes, misc. household goods
#6313 - Margaret Walker - keyboard, desk, misc. household
#6404 - Joshua E Lopez - couch, bookcase, file cabinet, misc. furniture, misc. boxes, tools
#7120 - Cheyenne M Pina - 2 tables, futon, misc. furniture
#8103 - Juanita Andrade - misc. household
#8134 - Gregory Williams - aquarium, bed, faux trees
#8140 - Sylvia R Herrera - large & small ceramic tile, grout, flexible acrylic latex
#8121 - Christopher Adams - couch, chest of drawers, bed, bicycle, misc. boxes
#8203 - Wendy P. Steinbarr - misc. boxes, misc. furniture, clothes
#8234 - Angel A Rodriguez - carpet padding, saw horses, misc.
#8303 - Total Housing - household goods, tools, appliances, office equip., office machines
#8315 - Juanita Andrade - washer, dryer, misc. furniture, misc. household goods, vacuum cleaner, golf clubs, TV
#8442 - Ricardo Morin - refrigerator, misc. furniture, misc. tools, misc. boxes
#9101 - Brian K. Courtney - kenmore refrigerator
#9110 - SBSG Inc. - files, computer cords
#9121 - Ronald E. Sabra - bicycle, storage container, clothing, stereo
#9127 - D Lamonte Mulkey - misc. boxes, book case, misc. clothes
#9328 - Lana B. Mitchell -

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

The term of this Construction Contract shall be for a twelve (12) month period commencing upon award by the Commissioners Court, with two (2) twelve (12) month options to renew, subject to approval of the Commissioners Court.

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at the following addresses; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on **Monday, Dec. 13, 2004 at 2:30 PM.** No one under 16 allowed. Auctioneer: Luther Davis, TX. Lic. #8325. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #197 5547 McNeil Drive Austin, TX 78729 (512) 336-8390
#217 Tracy Ruiz - boxes, TV, stereo equip.
#313 Don Edmonds - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV, stereo equip., acct. records
#1109 Chris Gilmer - household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV, stereo equip., office equip., office machines
#1722 Jay Drew - household goods, furniture, boxes
#1747 Shunikaqua Burks - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV, stereo equip.
#1814 Jay Drew - household goods, sporting goods, tools, TV, stereo equip.
#1877 Peter Messerschmidt - retail store inventory
#2208 Jane Copeland - household goods
#2222 Matthew Farris - roofing material

Uncle Bob's #231 8227 North Lamar Austin, TX 78753 (512) 833-0855
#537 Tiffany Jackson - household goods, appliances
#710 Isabel Cortez - household goods, boxes
#907 George Yychron - household goods, furniture, boxes
#961 Michael Schneider - household goods, furniture, boxes
#7701 Zachary Palmer - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.
#7723 Tamara Teaney - household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards. **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 21st of DECEMBER, 2004 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

9:30 a.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 1033 E. 41st St., Austin, TX 78751
1054 COMMUNITY ADVOCATES FOR TEENS AND PARENTS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
3038 JOHN PRENDERGAST, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, BOXES
4036 NICOLE NANEZ, SOFA, LOVESEAT, BOXES
4093 GREG P. AUDEL, TABLE, COMPUTER, BOOKS

10:00 a.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753
B052 GABRIEL GARCIA, CARPET PAD, COMPRESSOR, TOOL BOX
B065 STEPHANIE AUSTIN, TABLE, CHAIRS, CLOTHES
C006 PHILLIP POLK, DRESSER BOXES
C018 FELISHIA BLACK, WATER COOLER, SOFA, CHAIR
C100 NICOLE VASQUEZ, LADDER, SEWING MACHINE, BOXES
D130 PRISCILLA TREVINO, TOYS, DRESSER, VCR TAPES
E022 EUGENE REESE, LAMP, BASKETBALL HOOP, CLOTHES

11:00 a.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 937 Benlli, Austin, TX 78751
248 DIONNE BLACKMON, MATTRESS, BOX SPRING, DRYER
746 DEBRA TAYLOR, TABLE, BOXES, PAPERBACK BOOKS

11:30 a.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
456 ROBIN BUSH, CHAIR, LAMP, CLOTHES
506 ROBERT FISHER, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, DRESSER
584 LESLIE BROWN, VAN SEAT, CLOTHES, CHAIR
651 STEVEN DAVIS, VACUUM, FISH POLE, TV
1128 RICHARD FRANCE, TABLE, CHAIR, LAMP
1461 KAMELA FOLTZ, CHAIR, BOXES, WICKER BASKETS
2086 PATRICIA MARTINEZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
2112 JAMES RODGERS, RECLINER, BBQ, BOXES
2159 CURTIS JOHNSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
3029 HECTOR LARA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
3121 LATITIA TURNER, DRESSER, MIRROR, NIGHT- STAND

12:30 p.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
A053 SHARON DAWKINS, SUITCASE, EXER. EQUIP. BOXES
A056 WILLIAM KING, SECTIONAL, BEDDING, TRUNK
A086 RICK GRIGSBY, VCR, BOXES, MICROWAVE
D003 LINDA SPARKS, WASHER, DRYER, FAX MACHINE
D036 QUINCY NOLAN-LOWE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
H008 SABRINA DECKER, AMOIRE, TABLE, CHAIR
H014 MILTON TODD, TIRES, CLOTHES, LAMP
J015 EARL HOUSTON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1:30 p.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
D055 ROSDELI GUTIERREZ, BIKE, SUITCASE, BOXES
E034 MILTON TODD, BOXES, DUFFLE BAG, FILE CABINET
E122 SHAMMEON WASHINGTON, MICROWAVE, WALL CLOCK, BAGS
E123 MILTON TODD, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
G027 EARNEST EATON, VCR TAPES, CLOTHES, BACK PACK
G051 ADAM MORGAN, BAGS, BOXES, COOLER

2:30 p.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758
A232 CESAR FUENTEZ, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, VACUUM
B033 THAD KOONTZ, MATTRESS, BOX SPRINGS, TOOL BOX
C126 CAMERON JAMES, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, TOOL BOX
E148 RICHARD MARTIN, SAW, LAWN TOOLS, WEIGHTS

3:30 p.m. 21 DECEMBER, 2004 Public Storage @ 12318 N. Mopac Expwy, Austin, TX 78758
A020 MICHELLE YATES, CD'S CLOTHES, MICRO-WAVE
A069 DOUGLAS B. MERCER, GOLF CLUBS, MICROWAVE, ROLL TOP DESK

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the STEINER RANCH 12" x 10" Effluent Foremain and Steiner Ranch Blvd. Street Improvements. This deal includes approximately 21,600 LF of 12" Ductile Iron Pipe Foremain with valve boxes, cleanouts, manholes and other appurtenances, and approximately 7,900 LF of widening of Steiner Ranch Blvd., 7' for a bike lane as well as other misc. improvements to the intersection at Hwy. 620. All work must conform to State of Texas, City of Austin, County of Travis and Water Control and Improvement District #17 rules and criteria.

Copies of the Plans, Specifications, and Bidding Documents will be on file at the office of Longaro & Clarke, L.P., 1101 Capital of Texas Highway South, Building C, Suite 100, Austin, Texas 78746 (PH 512/306-0228), where they may be examined without charge. Copies may be examined or obtained from the ENGINEER on or after November 30, 2004 for a non-refundable fee of \$100.00 per set. Checks for Plans and Specifications, and Bidding Documents shall be made payable to Longaro & Clarke, L.P.

A Cashier's Check, Certified Check or acceptable BIDDER'S Bond, payable to Taylor Woodrow Communities/Steiner Ranch, Ltd. in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the Bid must accompany each bid as a guarantee that, if awarded the Contract, the BIDDER will enter into a contract and execute bonds within ten (10) days of award of the Contract. Performance and Payment Bonds shall also be executed on the forms furnished by the OWNER and shall specifically provide for "Performance" and for "Labor and Materials Payment". Each bond shall be issued in an amount of one hundred percent (100%) of contract price by a solvent Surety company, authorized to do business in the State of Texas and acceptable to the OWNER.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any and all bids to waive any and all technicalities and formalities in bidding. The OWNER reserves the right to determine which bids are lowest and best, and to award the Contract on this basis. No bid may be withdrawn for a period of forty-five (45) days after opening of the bids. If a submitted bid is withdrawn within said period, bid guaranty shall become the property of the OWNER, not as penalty, but as liquidated damages, or OWNER may pursue any other action allowed by law. A mandatory pre-bid conference will be held on December 9, 2004 in the offices of C. Faulkner Engineering, L.P., 400 Bowie Street, Suite #250, Austin, Texas 78703 at 3:00 p.m. Prospective bidders are encouraged to visit the site prior to the Pre-Bid.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JEWEL WALLIN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of JEWEL WALLIN, Deceased, were issued on November 23, 2004, in Cause No. 82,040, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: Jeana Laine Lungwitz as Independent Executor. The residence of the Independent Executor is Travis County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of Jewel Wallin LAW OFFICE OF DIANE HEBNER 507 West 7th Street Austin, Texas 78701-2817 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 23rd day of November, 2004. LAW OFFICE OF DIANE HEBNER 507 West 7th Street Austin, TX 78701-2817 (512)477-4158 Telephone (512)477-2126 Telefax By: /s/ Diane Hebner Attorney for Independent Executor State Bar No.: 09367300

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Norma E. Almquist, were issued on November 23, 2004 in Cause No. 82,058, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Norma Jean Almquist Anderson, Independent Executor. The residence of Norma Jean Almquist Anderson, Independent Executor, is in Dripping Springs, Hays County, Texas. The post office address for the Estate is: ESTATE OF NORMA E. ALMQUIST, NORMA JEAN ALMQUIST ANDERSON, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR c/o Thomas P. Washburn DE LEON, BOGGINS & ICE-NOGLE, P.C. 221 W. 6th Street, Suite 1050 Austin, Texas 78701 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 23rd day of November, 2004. DE LEON, BOGGINS & ICE-NOGLE, P.C. 221 West 6th Street, Suite 1050 Austin, Texas 78701 (512) 482-8628 Telecopier By: /s/ Thomas P. Washburn ATTORNEYS FOR NORMA JEAN ALMQUIST ANDERSON, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR ESTATE OF NORMA E. ALMQUIST, Deceased

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND HOLBROOK REED, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Raymond Holbrook Reed, deceased, were issued on November 17, 2004, in Cause No. 82026 pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas to Glynda Reed as independent executor. The residence of the independent executor is Travis County, Texas. The attorney for the independent executor is Thomas O. Barton, on behalf of McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 1300 Capitol Center, 919 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All claims are to be presented to the independent executor at the following address: Glynda Reed Independent Executor of the Estate of Raymond Holbrook Reed, Deceased c/o Thomas O. Barton 1300 Capitol Center 919 Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78701 Dated the 17th day of November, 2004. /s/ Glynda Reed, Independent Executor

NOTICE TO All Persons Having Claims Against the Estate of May Berkman, Deceased Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration With Will Annexed upon the Estate of May Berkman, Deceased, were issued on the 23rd day of November, 2004, in Cause No. 80995 in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas to Gordon McNutt. The post office address for mailing of claims is: Gordon McNutt, Executor c/o Rash, Chapman, Schreiber & Porter, L.L.P. 2112 Rio Grande Austin, Texas 78705 512/477-7543 (PHONE) 512/474-0954 (FAX) All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this November 24, 2004. By: Mark B. Schreiber Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carl Daniel Pearson, Deceased, were issued on October 29, 2003, in Cause No. 79661 in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to Sondra

Barbush as Independent Executrix. The address of the Independent Executrix is in Travis County, Texas, as follows: Sondra Lynne Barbush c/o von Kreisler & Swanson, P.C. 610 West Lynn Austin, Texas 78703 All persons having claims against the Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and the manner prescribed by law. DATED: November 2, 2004. VON KREISLER & SWANSON, P.C. 610 West Lynn Austin, Texas 78703 (512) 472-1494 Fax: (512) 478-4936 By /s/ Nicolai von Kreisler ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE OF CARL DANIEL PEARSON, DECEASED

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LILLA WRIGHT CLARK, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Lilla Wright Clark, deceased, were issued on November 23, 2004, in Cause No. 82065 pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas to Robert Earl Clark as independent executor. The residence of the independent executor is Dallas County, Texas. The attorney for the independent executor is Thomas O. Barton, on behalf of McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 1300 Capitol Center, 919 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All claims are to be presented to the independent executor at the following address: Robert Earl Clark, Independent Executor of the Estate of Lilla Wright Clark, Deceased c/o Thomas O. Barton 1300 Capitol Center 919 Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78701 Dated the 23rd day of November, 2004. /s/ Robert Earl Clark, Independent Executor

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF PATTY KING THOMPSON, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Patty King Thompson, deceased, were issued on November 23, 2004, in Cause No. 82025 pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas to Patricia Thompson Van Buskirk as independent executor. The residence of the independent executor is Dallas County, Texas. The attorney for the independent executor is Thomas O. Barton, on behalf of McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 1300 Capitol Center, 919 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701. All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All claims are to be presented to the independent executor at the following address: Patricia Thompson Van Buskirk, Independent Executor of the Estate of Patty King Thompson, Deceased c/o Thomas O. Barton 1300 Capitol Center 919 Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78701 Dated the 23rd day of November, 2004. /s/ Patricia Thompson Van Buskirk, Independent Executor

LEGAL NOTICES THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$21 per column inch. Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

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AV1216 POUND SALE NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDED AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

DECEMBER 16, 2004 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 220 RALPH ABLANEDO, AUSTIN, TX 78748

1. 043211405 1988 HOND 4DR L11TRF TX	JHMC45544J0079092
2. 045055874 1997 CHEV 4DR T86HZK TX	1G1ND052M76100519
3. 045055876 1990 BUIC 4DR X15VCV TX	1G4HR54CXHL485095
4. 045055910 1995 DODG 4DR PRT32W TX	1B3E547C4SD511280
5. 045055918 1992 TOYT 4DR HPR22Y TX	1NXAE91A1NZ361475
6. 045056036 1990 HOND 4DR K09DTR TX	1HGED3657LA064051
7. 045056037 1991 FORD VN S99KNY TX	1FDEE14N8MHA12189
8. 045056415 1998 FORD 4DR ZKG36L TX	1FAFP13P7WMW257222
9. 045056417 1987 FORD 4DR 644RTD TX	1FABP51DXHA196169
10. 045056423 1984 MGTL BT 13WLWF TX	*****
11. 045056464 1981 CHEV 2DR SVK77N TX	1G1AP87H7BL175186
12. 045056468 1990 HOND 4DR C42GTS TX	1HGC87660LA172556
13. 045056470 1984 CHRY 4DR DCW77J TX	1C3BF68P5EX622353
14. 045056472 1986 TOYT 4DR J7182V TX	JT2AE82E7G3374989
15. 045056473 2001 FORD 2DR M26PLB TX	3FAFP11301R235784
16. 045056474 1988 HOND 4DR TNJ20R TX	JHMC45633JC093426
17. 045056624 1972 FORD PK JP3722 TX	F10YKM40503
18. 045056785 1997 TOYT SW CDV692 TX	JT2CAE94V3N3042564
19. 045056794 1985 FORD PK HW7845 TX	17FCF15Y8FPA442321
20. 045056807 1996 CHEV 4DR VLC6BJ TX	1G1JC5245T7197468
21. 045056808 1978 VOLV 2DR SHF27N TX	VC24245L1129966

GK CH03 POUND SALE NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDED AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

DECEMBER 16, 2004 @ 1:00 PM @ CHOTES WRECKER 10717 RESEARCH BLVD AUSTIN, TX 78703 (512) 832-1692

1. 048000196 1985 CHEV 4DR 477MHD WA	1G1J0695PFK125397
2. 048000197 1993 MAZD VN R15VDS TX	JM3LV5222PQ535732
3. 048000198 1988 HOND 2DR P01VPL TX	JHMB44240JC009910
4. 048000199 1989 NISS 2DR B72GRW TX	JN1HS369KQW02214
5. 048000200 1997 CHEV LL 1DKS97 TX	1GNEC16RXVJ326440
6. 048000201 1994 PONT 4DR W54DNY TX	1G2NE553XRM553322
7. 048000202 1986 NISS PK XW1510 TX	JN6ND01S2GW108151
8. 048000203 1997 MITS 4DR ZY9X8K TX	JA3AY26A6VU038095
9. 048000204 1988 DODG PK 8CXV97 TX	1B7FD14Y2JS632119
10. 048000205 1992 MITS SD H198KV TX	4A3CS44T6NE068426
11. 048000206 1988 YAMA MC 169J4U TX	JYA2AXE01JA023432



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EXERCISE : hex bar,paid \$150.sell @ \$75.excellent condition.northwest austin 620 & 2222. #818-1220 andrew

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EXERCISE Bowflex Ultimate (with leg and squat attachments, 310lbs) for sale. Used for 3 months. Spent over \$2k on. Asking \$900 OBO. Email bowflex@austin.rr.com

EXERCISE SportsArt 5002B recumbent bike with heart-rate strap/control functions. Rarely used/excellent condition. Half price at \$750! 791-0980

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HOOHAHS new traditional India hookahs: 50" solid brass ghose \$75; 50" rosewood/ brass \$60; 24" brass 4hose \$30 444-3819

MISC 4 sets of skis \$50 womans/man's 10 speed \$25 ea. men's golf club set \$25, car bike rack \$20, croquet set \$10, grissold iron skillet #6 & #8 \$25 ea. new cb radio \$50 home base cb radio \$50 346-8855

MISC 5.6" color tv/monitor/ DVD combo for automobile, great shape, \$250; Yamaha open hole flute \$350; ASK FOR OTHER ITEMS. 789-6005

MISC Body Bridge (passive spinal traction table). I have 2. One's newer. One Original Chi Machine. \$100/\$200! \$200. 512-699-7203

MISC Complete set of Hex Head Dumbbells - 5 lbs. up to 35 lbs. Exertec Dumbbell Rack. Adjustable dumbbell bench w/ preacher curl attachment. \$250 for everything. Barely used/very clean. Can email pictures. 736-0478 cell.

MISC for sale: 27" magnavox tv, 4x3" bookshelf, mossberg 12 gauge, entertainment center, dresser drawers, microwave, trek 12 spd. priced to move.512-699-9366

MISC http://home.austin.rr.com/yyoung4 - Home theater system (Sony VPL-HS20 projector, Pioneer Elite electronics), Furniture, Tectrix exercise machine, Mamiya camera, color dark-room, more. 499-8773

MISC Photos avail. Walnut speakers & receiver \$90. Rice china 24 pieces \$80. Exquisite vintage clothing size 6-8 \$15-\$100. Knockout size 8 beaded dress \$80. 302-9228

MISC Three story Cat tower \$80.00 Gazelle freestyle elite (workout equipment) \$100.00 obo 251-3711

MISC Treadmill w/displays, \$75.00. Women's Schwinn bike, \$20.00 Scandinavian King headboard, \$20.00. 10 GAL. Igloo water cooler, \$15.00 926-2533

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MOVING SALE 60's vintage bedroom suite, BBQ/smoker, 4' furnished dollhouse, 6pc patio furniture VERY MUCH MORE. saustin_movingsale@yahoo.com 512-773-6285

MOVING SALE Furniture, household items, clothing, lawn equipment sale. Dec. 4th 7-12p.m. 11502 DK Ranch Road, Austin. No early birds!

PAINTINGS Genuine John Wayne Gacy Painting " \$1500 "Christ" painting in lime green, 8x10, signed by Gacy, front & back (seen on Web for sale for \$1700-2500). Plus two additional pieces with JWC handwriting on it (seen for additional \$200-400). Will take \$1500 for all. Serious inquiries ONLY please. Serious offers (cash only) considered. 454-5766, x 129.

PAINTINGS Genuine John Wayne Gacy Painting " \$1500 "Christ" painting in lime green, 8x10, signed by Gacy, front & back (seen on Web for sale for \$1700-2500). Plus two additional pieces with JWC handwriting on it (seen for additional \$200-400). Will take \$1500 for all. Serious inquiries ONLY please. Serious offers (cash only) considered. 454-5766, x 129.

PINBALL from 1979 called Future Spa by Bally. \$600. Works great and is quite cool! 929-7208

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RING Beautiful 1.03c round solitaire,Si2/H-I,single band. 2 marquise diamonds (.05 c ea) mounted 1 on each side, and 2 round brilliant cut diamonds (.03 c ea). Appraisal at \$6,800. Sell \$3,400. 512-779-6786

SAFE Sentry fireproof safe for sale. Great for home or small business. Approx. 2 ft deep. Paid about \$325. Asking \$150. Call 512-289-1839.

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1991 Honda Accord, 4 door, LX, auto, clean, drives nicely, \$2950

2001 Honda Civic, 2 door, EX, AT, 24,000 miles, very clean, could trade, \$9950

1992 Acura Vigor, one owner, very clean, 70K, leather, \$4650

1983 Nissan 280ZX, 5sp, T tops, modern classic, \$2950

Parts for: 87 Mercedes 300E, 84 500SEC, 92 GMC Custom Van, 95 Camry, 89 Legend, 97 Civic 2 door.

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(*NIGHTS AND WEEKENDS TILL 9 P.M.)

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HONDA ACCORD EX '99 V6, coupe, loaded, 66K, color-black plum grey leather int. Very sharp, well maint. Runs great., \$9,900, 282-0280

HONDA ACCORD EX '99 V6 coupe.66k. Black Plum, Grey Leather, fully loaded, sharp, Great Car-Must see-\$9,900. 282-0280

HONDA ACCORD '91 4dr., LX, Auto, Clean, drives nicely, \$2,950. Warranty? No Problem! Call Jim at Auto Depot @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

HONDA CIVIC '01 2 dr., EX, AT, 24,000 miles, very clean, could trade \$9,950. Warranty? NO PROBLEM! Call Jim at Auto Depot @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

HONDA CIVIC '92 Great 1992 Honda Civic, 117K, \$1700. EMAIL robertbyington@earthlink.net

HONDA CRX 91' Red, tinted windows, rims, car alarm, cd player, 171K rebuilt, \$3,500. 512-259-7520

HONDA HYBRID '03



50mpg. Need to sell - family grew. 23,000miles, excellent condition. \$15850. 4 door sedan, 5 speed standard. CD player, power windows. Super low emissions standard. Clair or Juan at 323-5017

HONDA PRELUDE '97 4 cyl, auto, ac, p/mirrors, p/windows, tilt, stereo, am/fm, abs, sunroof, tint, alarm, uweb.txstate.edu/~dt1057, \$6800 OBO, 512-289-9722, 512-832-6997

HONDA PRELUDE '95 black, auto, 112k mi, cd, pw/pl, snrf, 4800 obo, 512-698-8277 John

HONDAS from \$500! Police impounds for sale. Chevy's, Jeeps, etc. For listings 800-749-8116 ext 7032

INSURANCE Are you paying too much for insurance? Call and SAVE today! 263-4333

JEEP CHEROKEE 00' Laredo, \$12,600/OBO, Gray, 4DR, SUV, 50K miles, AT, AC, CD, Exc. Cond. 512-491-9541.

LINCOLN CONTINENTAL'79



Classic "Black Beauty" Lincoln Continental black leather interior, good A/C, cd changer minor body damage, runs great, will let go for \$1000. Call Summer 300-8220

MAZDA MIATA '90 \$1300 neg. 122K miles, body damage, drivable, call for details Ernie 680-8453

MERCEDES '80



450SL CONVERTIBLE. THIS CHRISTMAS MAKE SOMEONE HAPPY! Hard and Soft Top. 70K original miles. Always maintained. CD player, Sony speaker. Drive anywhere. Excellent condition. \$16700 OBO call (512)419-1341 (Hyde Park) or Email merco450@yahoo.com

MERCEDES 190SL '56



CONVERTIBLE 4 spd ground up restoration using factory parts, new everything 300 miles on rebuilt motor, grey/black \$30,000 or offer 346-8855

MERCEDES 280 '96 Loaded, really nice, 94K, could trade. \$7500. WARRANTY? No Problem. Call Jim at Auto Depot @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

MERCEDES C320 '03 White with stone grey leather. Less than 20K miles. \$23,000. Photos at http://home.austin.rr.com/wyyoung4. 512-499-8773.

MERCEDES SLK '99



KOMPRESSOR Convertible (hard top) super charged, runs great, mileage in low 70's. Call to make an appointment. Tracy Spear 432-978-9433 cell

MERCURY COMET '60 classic all-original, 4-door, 6-cylinder automatic, AC, very good condition, always garaged, under 56K actual miles, light green (almost white) exterior, green interior, \$5095. 512-296-65001

MERCURY TRACER '88 auto, runs great, 82k miles, cold ac, 30MPG, great condition, reliable, \$1,400 OBO. CALL TOM 771-7589

MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE '01 GT, Auto trans, 6 cyl, sunroof, 67,500 miles. Great CD player, runs great. Transferable warranty, pearl white, \$10,000. 454-8280

NISSAN 240 SX SE '96 85K, AT, extremely clean \$4,950 WARRANTY No problem! Call Jim @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

NISSAN 280ZX '79 Very good condition cheap, 5 sp. good dash/interior new front bushings installed 120k cold AC coupe, paint faded \$1800 512 381 4814

NISSAN 280 ZX SE '83 5sp, T tops, modern classic, \$2950 WARRANTY No problem! Call Jim @ the Auto Depot: 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

NISSAN 300ZX '96 Red, Auto, 81K miles. \$9,200. (512)837-7238

NISSAN ALTIMA GLE '98 107k miles, leather interior, power everything, clean title, tinted, sporty rims and more. \$4,500 OBO. For pics email clewis_utmba@yahoo.com.

PLYMOUTH BREEZE '96 4 dr, new engine, \$2800, 626-0307

PONTIAC GRAND AM '01 White w/ Tan Interior, 4dr., Auto Everything, 70K Miles, New Tires, \$6,000 Call 419-0964

SUBARU WAGON '83 200k just put about 1000 dollars worth of repairs: tuneup, clutch, axle, tires. runs well... 700\$ brian 587-9533

TOYOTA CAMRY '96 10k on new engine, 10k mi. \$7,500 OBO. David 835-5350

TOYOTA CAMRY '01'



Well maintained, gas saver, 4 cyl. New Tires, Premium Wheels, Power everything, AC, Dual air bags, CD player, Wireless Entry, 54k, \$12500 OBO, 278-1950

TOYOTA CAMRY '89 great condition, pw, pl, sunroof, ac/heat, fully loaded! no problems! \$1,995 OBO call (210) 824-5857

TOYOTA COROLLA '82 5 speed. Like new. Extremely well cared for. All records. All original. Must see. \$1200 482-0012

TOYOTA COROLLA '91 Great Price! \$1800 Reliable car. 152,000 miles. Nice exterior, white, cd/radio, needs AC work, new tires. Interior-fair condition. 512-470-6568

TOYOTA COROLLA '94 AT, 4 dr., Possibly the cleanest car in town, prior accident damage but need to see! 1 year warranty, \$4,650. Warranty? No problem! Jim @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA LANDCRUISER '89



Landcruiser 189,000 miles look's good and run good. 3rd owner, all records. \$5000.00 obo. David 423-5593

TOYOTA SUPRA '88



Look HOT in this maroon Supra! Cruise control, CD/AM FM radio, maroon cloth interior, targa top, new tires, non-turbo, automatic, power windows and lock. \$3,000 Call Beth at 339-0435 or email at beth@signeffects.biz.

TOYOTA TERCEL CD '97 Hawk series. Limited Edition, standard, tinted windows, r-defrost, air, new cd/mp3/stereo, factory spoiler, airbags, power steering, excellent tires. sporty and super-reliable. \$4150. 338-1210

VOLVO 240 '90



Wagon, auto, air, white/blue cloth 165k, 2nd owner. Runs good. \$1900 New tires/radiator, rebuilt tran. 320 0423

VOLVO 244DL'84 (rare) Diesel, gun metal blue, 20,000 miles, rebuilt engine, transmission, fuel injection pump-fuel line, clean interior, good tires and new battery, needs TLC, \$2,499, 903-890-1087, 903-893-8176

VOLVO 740 WAGON '88 silver, 200,000 mi, runs but requires heavy maintenance. \$800. 554-2840

VOLVO WAGON '87 one owner, dependable roomy wagon, good heat, tinted windows. Odometer stopped 205k but these cars go forever! \$999 obo 799-3115

VW BUG '74 Needs a good home \$1,750 or bo. Call Daniel @ 220-7039 or 797-2134.

VW JETTA GLS '01 VR6. 5 speed, alloy wheels & sunroof. Silver w/ black interior. 56K miles. One owner. \$12,500. (512) 821-2847

VW SQUAREBACK '71 good body, paint, needs motor rebuilt. \$400.00 323-0973

VW SUPER BEATLE CONVERTIBLE '79



75K original miles, disc brakes, AC, mars red with white top, NEW top/liner, back shocks, wheels, alternator! \$9,500. 447-1106 OR 870-1723

TRUCKS FOR SALE

CHEVY CHEYENNE '98 Blue extended cab shortbed 73K. New tires, great condition. \$8900 OBO I don't need a big blue truck! If you do, please call 512-292-1872.

CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 '01



V6, 61K miles, 100K warranty, red, manual trans, runs great, clean, beautiful truck, bedliner, cd, good tires, minor cosmetic damage, below blue book, will trade for toyota or honda, \$7800 obo, kristin 512.771.3664

CHEVY SILVERADO '97 Ex-cab, 3-dr., auto, pw, pl, cc, duel air bags, excellent condition in & out, garaged, 1-owner. \$9,500.00 o.b.o. 282-3101

CHEVY SILVERADO '88



New engine -2001 less than 15K, AC & heater work, I had it on my ranch - no longer need it. \$3000 cash. Call Tracy Spear 432-978-9433 cell

CHEVY SILVERADO '89 well maintained, new engine 86,000 miles, new tires and exhaust, a/c, all power, looks good, runs great, reliable, lots of cargo space. \$2,800 obo. 1-325-388-8612

CHEVY SILVERADO '79 60K miles on a rebuilt 350 engine, no A/C, needs compressor, 2 toned tan/cream, long bed, needs new flywheel. 913-0934. \$700 firm.

CHEVY SILVERADO '00 Mint Silverado with Camper top, bedrug bedliner many more options 60,000mi. Email for questions or pictures to dschwarz@austin.rr.com or call 512-699-3749 asking \$15,000

CHEVY SILVERADO 2500HD '96 Good cond. pick up, blue Chevy ext. cab, great5 work truck, 235k mi. \$3800.00 OBO please call 512-250-1004 Donny or Melissa

CHEVY SUBURBAN '89 6.2 diesel chevy suburban, runs, needs work, rebuilt tran. great interior, B.O. (512)924-9546 zac

CHEVY TRUCK '66 panel truck. 6 cyl. 3 spd. runs okay. Registered & Inspected. \$1200 o.b.o. Parked on Cherrywood b/w Manor and 38th 1/2 St. Drive by and look, if interested call 320-0711.

CHEVY Z71 '01



LS XTD CAB 4x4, 5.3L Vortec V8 W/ Towing Package, Alloy Wheels, Power everything! CD/AM/FM/TAPE. \$15,800 http://users.waymark.net/idyll/truck/ Call 659-4627.

DODGE DAKOTA '01'



Only 37K, 5 spd, sport package. Dark blue, tilt steering, AC, new bedliner. Great condition inside and out. \$7,700 OBO. Call 280-4795 or abanana2@earthlink.net

DODGE DURANGO SLT '99 V8 5.2L, 3rd row seat, towing package, very clean, 113K miles, Burgandy, \$8,500 obo. (512)228-3998. AC AL Brakes Alloy Wheels, PB/PS, Tilt, Roof Rack, AM/FM, Auto, CC, PDL, PW. Towing Package

DUMPTRUCKS Do you need 1 or 2 BIG dumptrucks? I really don't. 1981 FORD dump truck (not running). 1977 KW dumptruck (not running). Extra bed available. \$3K each or both for \$4K. Call for pics/info. 633-0037

FORD EXPLORER SPORT '92 198K miles, Pw/Pwd, interior/body in good shape, tow package, \$1500 OBO for more info call Keith at 512.762.4939

FORD F-150 LARIAT '87



Extended cab and 18'X6' trailer with ramps and electric brakes. Cover for bed. I'm the second owner. Car Hauler 441-2454, 659-9614

FORD F150 '88 Longbed - Red in color, 5-speed, 4.9 Litre inline 6 Cylinder, Great running condition -all records. Please call 419.7928

FORD F250 '85 4X4, Overall good body, 6.9L Diesel, 4 spd, NEW master cyl, u-joints, steering linkage, needs vacuum booster, starter, glow plugs. \$1500 OBO. Need to sell QUICK! 796-1714

FORD F350 XL '93 4X4, 5.8L, 5 Spd. New tires, shocks, waterpump, starter, Pioneer AM/FM/CD, Sliding rear window, Gooseneck Hitch, 12 inch Drop bumper. NADA is 4475.00. Asking 3900.00 obo. Call (512)389-2087

FORD RANGER XLT '98 4x4, 4dr, 57K, 3.0L V6, Manual, 1 owner, cruise, CD, pwr w/d/l, marine carpet lined cap & bed, hidden hitch, new brakes & tires. \$9600 OBO 512-636-2011. http://home.austin.rr.com/rangerxlt/

FORD XLT TRITON V-8 '02

Super cab. Has running boards and alligator type bed liner. Forrest Green and only 20,000 miles. Still under factory warranty. 441-2454 659-9614

FREIGHTLINER '99

Great condition, new engine, \$20,000 OBO. Call for more details, 694-1845

GMC LWB '64 LWB, Big Block 305 V-6, 4-speed manual, nice interior, good tires, must see to appreciate. Rod, restore or a great daily driver. Must Sell \$3450 obo call 512-789-0142

ISUZU SPACECAB '91 pick-up, fair condition; AC, 267K miles; \$1,500; call (512) 585-2761.

KAWASAKI NINJA 250R '02 12500 miles great condition, runs well, npaine@mail.utexas.edu, more info at: https://web-space.utexas.edu/nap244/ninja250sale.htm

MAZDA B2000 '83 Sun-downer for Sale. 220K miles. Not so pretty but runs well. Recent tuneup. Registered and inspected till 11/05. \$999. 971-4314.

MAZDA B3000 '02

Extended cab, automatic, 33K miles, a/c, power windows and doors, bedliner and extender, perfect condition call 512-415-7346 \$11,000 obo

MAZDA B3000 '00

V6 with 54,500 miles. Extended cab, alloy wheels, cd player, tinted windows, bed liner with bed cover. Must see / drive. \$8,500 obo. Michael 423-5682

MAZDA B3000 '97

4x4, Kenwood digital stereo w/serious satellite. Rockford Fosgate amps w/12" speakers. \$5500. 626-7286

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TOYOTA T-100 '98

4wh dr, 1-owner, extcab, pwr str/brks, auto trans, liner, hitch, cruise, tilt, running boards, stereo, new brakes, well-maintained, 142k hwy miles, \$10750 740-7551

TOYOTA TACOMA '00

60K miles, Great condition, you can have it for \$7750 OBO 698-6494

TRUCKS Find your next car here. Inventory for 40 local dealers. www.centralTXautos.com

VW VAN '73 restoration in progress, 4200 on new engine, extra parts, runs good, moving and need to sell (512)775-1179 \$1600 obo

VW VANAGON CAMPER '84

w/ 89 engine, pop up upper level bed, bench seat/fold out bed, removable center seat, sink & fridge, 2 cook top burner, propane & water tanks, lots of storage, radio/cassette/10 disc cd player. \$7000. Call 214.893.2994 or coconutrock@hotmail.com

MOTORCYCLES
APRILIA SR50 DITECH '01 Aprilla Scooter for sale - yellow/black - great condition - low miles - 60 MPH - Extremely efficient (120 mpg) - \$1775obo - contact Daniel 533-9015

HARLEY DAVIDSON XLCH '70

1998 ground up complete rebuild, 1600 miles, brand new 33 yr old bike, motor and trans by Machado's, too many features to list - call for details 452-1600. Must sell NOW! \$6900 obo

HONDA SHADOW 600 VLX '03 8000 hwy miles. Pearl blue, excellent cond. Passenger seat, LED lights. \$4500 OBO. Pics avail. Email: TEMP1607@HOTMAIL.COM. Austin, TX.

HONDA TRAIL 90 '79 +290 TW 200 street/trail, electric start \$750. 653-5800

HONDA XL 500 '79 4 stroke. Very good condition. Road tires, very powerful. \$600 obo. (512) 916-8445

PIAGGIO CIAO PX 84' True Moped (pedal start) 49CC, Perfect for students, runs great, looks good, \$750 OBO Call 407-9189

SUZUKI GSX-R 600 '00 31,000 mi good cond. (Well maintained, Garage kept) Clear Title \$3,500 OBO 520 chain and sprocket conversion Scotts Damper Yoshi Exhaust Under tail Kit EBC rotors Safety Wired Cover/Disk Lock. 467-0683

SUZUKI ST125 '86 Street/trail, 6k mi, \$725 653-5800

YAMAHA TW200 '89 Street/trail, electric start, low seat height, 1900 mi. \$1200 OBO. 653-5800

RECREATIONAL

ATV Honda 1997 300 fourtrax atv with 5 speeds forward and reverse. Standard tires and head lights. Towing capability. Good condition. adult driven, low hours, does not use oil, shifts nicely. 670-7858 FOR INFO. aSKING: \$1,800 OR obo.

BOAT 1980s Cris Craft in-board motor; runs good; captain's chairs need rebuild; new floor, bench seats, battery; skis, tube, & accessories included.\$3,000 OBO. 260-8614

CHEVY ASTRO VAN '02 Runs great, Michelin Tires, Seven passenger, well maintained, has CD, ABP, & Tow package, \$12,500 or \$500 down & take over payments. Call 585-2285

CHEVY ASTRO VAN '01 143K mostly hwy mi, Bronze color, power locks & windows, tilt & cruise control, cold AC front & back, CD/FM stereo. A few dings but runs/ Looks great! \$9850, 248-0448 danny_santos@hotmail.com

CHEVY BLAZER '91 1991-98K miles Pics at: http://www.cardomain.com/id/512markd \$4500 call 512-560-3936

CHEVY SUBURBAN 99' LT Pewter, Leather, One Owner, 92K, TV & VCR, Loaded, Never Wrecked \$9,500 347-1301

CHEVY SUBURBAN '94

4X4, \$3995 custom paint/interior, dual A/C, runs great, 120K, body damage front left corner...needs \$600 parts to repair. 329-0329.

CHEVY VAN FS '89 1989 Chevy Conversion Van runs good 200,000 miles. \$1,800 obo. 457-8335

CHRYSLER 95'

Town & Country. Leather quad captain seats, CD, New tires, dual airbags, ABS, Tint, Power seat/lock/steer. CC, 3.8L 6-cylinder. Great condition. \$2,500 OBO! 512-373-9668

FORD BRONCO '88 Eddie Bauer Edition. \$600 obo. Needs some work. Ran fine 3 months ago, but has been sitting. Good work / ranch truck. 413-9960

FORD E250 '79 Van. Econoline. Metal roof deck, hitch, good tires. Carpeted, bench back seat. Runs, reliable, \$700 OBO 462-0955.

FORD EXPLORER SPORT '97 Low mileage, excellent cond. Must sell. Must see. \$4,500. 442-3692

FORD GPW JEEP FORD GPW '42 Army Jeep. 1-of-a-kind, complete, ran 2 years ago, army surplus vehicle. Pictures available. MUST SELL-\$1000 obo. Trades considered. 512-789-0142

HONDA PASSPORT '94 good condition, AC, chrome wheels, CD, 160,000K, \$3000 obo, call 351-0880

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE '97 Super clean and dependable 97 Jeep Grand Cherokee. Must drive to believe. Very well maintained and cared for. Only 82k miles. Selling for \$500 below book value. Dave K. 659-3595

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD '96 Good condition., new Sony CD, cold A/C, 100,500 mi, maroon, \$6000 FIRM 512-653-6440 email savoid@austin.rr.com Photos at: community.webshots.com/user/lfein1

JEEP WAGONEER '82 Limited edition, excellent condition, original, collector's car, \$3900. 389-2455

JEEP WRANGLER '03 FREEDOM EDITION, silver w/ black soft top, AC, 35 inch mud terrain tires, 6" super lift suspension, side step bars, painted fender flares, tow hooks, fog lights, cd/am/fm, 13K miles, excellnt cond., \$18,700 254-289-9582

JEEP WRANGLER LAREDO '87 Black 4.2L 6cyl, Ssp 4WD; Hard top w/roll cage, pwr steering, AC, chrome rims, new tires, tinted glass, 160k mi., \$2800 obo, call Colin @ 431-2627

JEEP WRANGLER X3 '03

Metallic Silver, 4x4, V6 (4.0L) 5-speed, 26k Hwy, Sound Bar, AC/Heat, CD-AM/FM, AR wheels, Powertrain 7 yr/70k warranty, like new. \$17,000. Contact, jeremyheffner@hotmail.com

MITSUBISHI MONTERO 01'

Black, Sport ES, 44k miles, great cond. cd player, 17" tires with cool caps, AC, \$13,500 OBO. Call Jon @ 797-1641

MOTORHOME '79

Surveyor, 32'. Runs great... everything works, ready to roll! 45k miles, 440 Dodge, Onan generator, microwave, awning, big fridge. Lots of storage space. Asking \$3,900. Call pager and leave phone number after beeps then press *# (512) 305-5703.

NISSA XTERRA SE '00 auto, 93k, cd, silver/gray, loaded, great condition, awesome car, \$9500 call Andrew at 832-605-8525

NISSAN PATHFINDER SE '95 V6 4Dr, Silver, 4x4,Manual Trans., A/C, Moonroof, PW/PL, CC, Tilt, AM/FM/Cass, speakerbox w/ two Orion 12" woofers and 400w Alpine amp, Alarm, Roof rack, Mi 123,000. \$4300 OBO. 374-1876

SUBARU FORRESTER '02 SUV

Excellent condition, 45K miles, golden tan, all wheel drive, CD, Roof Rack, Autot., Air. New brakes/new tires. \$15,300 OBO. 512-426-0076

TOYOTA 4RUNNER LTD 4WD - excellent condition, only owner, 55000 miles, loaded - sunroof, leather seats, two-tone, cd/Cassette \$15900 512-996-9033

TOYOTA FORERUNNER '95 5 sp., very clean, 131K, new clutch & T belt, 4 wheel drive, drives super, \$5,550. Warranty? No problem! Jim @ 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

VW VANAGON '89 pop-top 2 beds w/ motor and transmission rebuild 5k ago, 4-spd, white; stove, sink, fridge. Very solid California Bus with receipts brp512@hotmail.com or 512-2197-5802 after 5pm \$8,500

WINNEBAGO

Classic 1988 Winnebago Le Sharo. 70,000 miles. Park anywhere. 17 mpg. Gasoline engine. Well maintained. Comfortable. Queen size futon mattress. Generator. Automatic transmission & cruise control. \$12,000. Ted 266-1801.

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AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES Lugnuts. Corner of WM. Cannon & Congress, 111 WM. Cannon Dr. #102 445-NUTS (6887). Locally Owned.

CAMPER SHELL A red camper shell for little trucks it has a light and secures firmly. \$100. Please contact Lesley at 512-775-9098

BODY & SOUL



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ASTROLOGY/PSYCHIC
FITNESS/TRAINING
MISCELLANEOUS
SINGLE SERVICES

READER NOTICE

READER NOTICE
The State of Texas Department of Health requires registration numbers for individuals who practice massage. These registration numbers are included in all ads within the therapy section. They are as follows: TR = Temporary Registration is a temporary licensed number which is good for six months as a registered massage therapist in Texas. RMT = Registered Massage Therapist or MT = Massage Therapist, which is the permanent registration number once all state tests have been passed. ME = Massage Establishment, which is a place of business that offers licensed massage therapy and has a licensed massage therapist on site of the business establishment. MI = Massage Instructor, an individual who is a registered massage therapist approved by the State of Texas to offer instruction to 1 or more students of massage therapy. Any concerns should be directed to the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 512-834-6616

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ALTERNATIVE to pain and stress. Holiday Specials and Gift certificated available. The best professional therapeutic massage in town to relieve, relax, and revitalize. Centrally located. 20% off RMT017147 Nanette 789-6278

ALTERNATIVE Same day only. South Austin. Call Jen, Cell: 203-7271. RMT#7400. 10AM-10PM & later.

ALTERNATIVE Body Blessings. Fluid Motions/Warm Lotions. Sun-Fri 9am-6pm. Rachel 440-7129. (RMT 11993)

ALTERNATIVE/GENERAL "GAMBLER MASSAGE" only good hands deal here. rmt#31534 445-0280

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTINA... Fabulous Swedish massage. All cards accepted! 8am-2am. Outcalls, or my studio! (RMT#39719) Call 206-0229.

ALTERNATIVE Professional medical/physical therapy/orthopedic/sports massage available. RMT #029792 Draping req. 657-3457

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Long Trip, Long Flight Long Day?
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DEEP TISSUE/SPORTS South x South Rest Massage, Swedish for men and women. Strong hands w/caring touch. Same day appts, 8am-9pm. Steve, 477-5772. \$10 off 1st Session. Rmt 27632. Dwnwtwn.

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DEEP TISSUE Work for men available evenings/weekends. Replenish your well-being. (rmt 24006; nctmb 289484) Bob. 458-5656.

DEEP TISSUE Aching for a great massage? Swedish, deep tissue, postural integration, 20 yrs exp. Central Austin. Monica Mullen, 512-963-8331 (RMT 3573)

DEEP TISSUE FEEL THE KNEAD. Incalls. Slaughter & Brodie. Outcalls avail. Draping required. Yvonne, ** 297-3015 ** RMT#23593

DEEP TISSUE/SWEDISH Private hotub. NW location. (MT#030155) Travis 75/1.5hrs 653-8104

DEEP TISSUE 10 yrs exp w/ deep tissue & sports massage. Weekends. Rmt# 010016. Henry, 627-3944.

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DEEP TISSUE Prof. downtown stress relief. Deep, 20 yrs. exp. Office/hotel calls. Flex. hours. VISA/MC. Mark Robin 472-4419. RMT#541

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PAIN AND STRESS DISAPPEAR!!
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to your health

by James Heffley

Q. I saw a TV report recently saying that vitamin E supplements can be harmful, even fatal. I have used a vitamin E supplement of 400 international units daily in addition to 30 IU in a multivitamin/mineral for about 10 years. Am I hurting myself?

A. You probably heard the news concerning a report in the online edition of the Annals of Internal Medicine on Nov. 10, 2004 (to be published Jan. 4, 2005), asserting that vitamin E supplements more than 400 IU per day increase the risk of death. They base this speculation on the pooled results of 19 studies representing about 136,000 people who took vitamin E supplements for a year or more, most of whom had been diagnosed with some illnesses. Their statistics indicate that those taking 400 IU or more of vitamin E per day had a 5% greater risk of dying over a four-year period than those who were taking less than 150 IU per day or none.

It appears that the major purpose of the publication was more to generate sensational headlines than to convey accurate information. The study has some serious flaws and flies in the face of several previous studies that indicate benefits from vitamin E supplements.

The first concern, also pointed out in a rare editor's note accompanying the article, is that the conclusions of the study should not be generalized to include healthy adults. However, some of the most trustworthy research indicates that vitamin E supplements of several hundred IU per day provide protection from a number of medical conditions such as blood clots in leg veins. Such levels of intake cannot be obtained from diet alone. Thus, people who would benefit most from vitamin E supplements are advised not to take them.

A second concern is the type of vitamin E used in the various studies. A great deal of research is done using synthetic vitamin E or dl-alpha tocopherol, instead of the more expensive types derived from food, d-alpha tocopherol, or mixed tocopherols. The authors do not discriminate between results obtained using synthetic vitamin E and "natural" vitamin E. The authors of the study are aware of the different types, since they convert the amounts of vitamin E used in the various studies, whatever the type, to equivalent amounts of alpha tocopherol. There is evidence that gamma-tocopherol or another form of vitamin E known as tocotrienols perform considerably better than dl-alpha tocopherol, both in terms of clinical results and safety.

Thirdly, it is now well-established that all the antioxidants are capable of inflicting damage when used alone. The authors mention that the vitamin E studies reviewed sometimes included other nutrients but fail to point out whether results differed when a team of nutrients was used, as compared to vitamin E alone.

The authors only speculate on a mechanism for the way in which vitamin E supplements could upset the body's normal functioning, but to be fair there is as yet no agreement on exactly how vitamin E helps the body maintain health. It is certainly part of the team of antioxidants that slows cellular aging and, along with vitamin K, is an effective anticoagulant that keeps our blood flowing through our veins. When used with a multivitamin/mineral to supply vitamin C, vitamin A, selenium, and a legion of other nutrients, it is a safe and efficient approach to continued health.

James Heffley, Ph.D., is a certified clinical nutritionist. The information he provides is for educational use only. If you believe you have a medical problem, see your physician.

free will astrology

by Rob Breznsy

for the week of Dec. 4 - Dec. 10

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): *Be here now.* That's usually pretty good advice. It means reeling your mind in from its distracted daydreaming about the past and future so that you can be fully attentive to the present moment. To really *be here now*, you have to stop fantasizing about what might happen or what could have been, and instead focus on what's actually unfolding right in front of you. Having said all that, however, I'm going to give you astrological permission to spend an inordinate amount of time in the coming week following a different mandate. For a limited time only, Sagittarius, you can and should *be there then*: vividly imagine yourself in a desirable future scenario as if it were already happening. Feel the feelings you'll have when it materializes.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In his book *The Secrets and Mysteries of Hawaii*, Pila Chiles recounts the advice given him by an Indian holy man: "If you have lost the business, your house, and wife, after you have been pronounced terminally ill and life has dealt you the worst blows, there is only one duty left. That is to crawl over to the nearest mirror, hoist yourself up, look deeply into it with your last breath, and say aloud seven times: 'Cock-a-doodle-doo!'" No matter how low you might feel, Capricorn, you have to admit that your problems aren't even 1% as serious as that. You should find it relatively easy, then, to go to a mirror right now and crow, "Cock-a-doodle-doo!" seven times. Please do.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Dr. Ivan Goldberg (www.psychcentral.com/maniaquiz.htm) has created a questionnaire to help excitable people stay alert for when they may be about to go over the edge. For instance, he advises them to be wary if they're thinking things like "My mind has never been sharper," "I need less sleep than usual," "I have more new ideas than I can handle," "I have been feeling particularly playful," or "I have been feeling like 'the life of the party.'" The weird thing is, Aquarius, that you're expressing many of the symptoms he names, only in you it's a sign of extraordinary vitality. Now please tap into the generosity and joy you've got in such abundance right now, and make the following affirmation, which is No. 15 on Goldberg's list: *I have special plans for the world.*

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): For far too long, Pisces, you have been overly tolerant of sober, solemn approaches. You have allowed businesslike people with a lack of emotional riches to define important questions. You have acted as if the absurdly literal mindset that views everything in black and white is strong and authoritative. What better time than now, therefore, to launch a strike in the name of irreverence, hilarity, and wildly poetic justice?

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The seeds of some trees are so tightly compacted within their protective cones that only flames can free them and allow them to sprout. The lodgepole pine and jack pine can't reproduce, in other words, without the help of forest fires. I suspect that you will have a resemblance to those fire-dependent, fire-resistant seeds in the coming months, Aries. Your ability to prosper and flourish may require you to spend time in the metaphorical equivalent of a large blaze. Don't worry for your sanity or safety. Just as the seeds in jack pine cones can tolerate temperatures of 1,700 degrees Fahrenheit, you will be very hardy. p.s. Your first trial by fire may begin any minute now.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Your soul is the best friend you keep forgetting you have. It's closer than your breath and older than death. It dreams like a mountain, laughs like a river, and communicates with you in the exuberantly mysterious style of animals and gods. You are alive because of your soul! It loves you with nonstop, unconditional ingenuity. Isn't it right, then, to devote at least one special day each year to honoring it and giving thanks for its blessings? From an astrological perspective, this is a perfect time to do just that. Schedule Soul Celebration Day for sometime this week.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): It's an excellent time for you to fuel your urge to compete. But wait! Before you start working yourself into a frenzy about your rivals and adversaries, before you erupt with a surge of jealous fantasies, read this quote from ballet superstar Mikhail Baryshnikov: "I do not try to dance better than anyone else. I only try to dance better than myself." That's the special kind of competitive zeal I advise you to stoke in the coming weeks, Gemini.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): "Centuries of travel lore suggest that when we no longer know where to turn, our real journey has just begun." So says Phil Cousineau in his book *The Art of Pilgrimage: The Seeker's Guide to Making Travel Sacred*. I hope that's a perfect description of your current state, Cancerian. It may not be obvious yet, but losing your direction is the best gift you could have possibly been given. Being unsure of your next move is a crucial development in your life story and a virtual guarantee that you will be in the right place at the right time for a divine intervention a few weeks from now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): One good way to celebrate your astrological Season of Rapture would be to acquire the book *Sexual Energy Ecstasy: A Practical Guide to Lovemaking Secrets of the East and West*, by David and Ellen Ramsdale. Carry out any of the exercises between pages 333 and 339, including these: 1) Imagine that your house is burning down around you while you're making love; you're too blissfully engrossed to flee, and die in each other's arms. 2) As you make love, imagine you're dreaming, and will soon wake up. 3) Imagine that your lover's face keeps changing, becoming the faces that he or she had in past incarnations. 4) Make love with paper bags over your heads. Cut out holes for your eyes and mouths. 5) Imagine that you're making love to Jesus Christ, Mary Magdalene, Buddha, Tara, Kwan Yin, Krishna, Parvati, or some other enlightened one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't fight the inevitable. Don't resist it and bitch about it and curse it. On the other hand, don't just lie down and let it roll on over you, relinquishing your will and losing your spunk. Instead, Virgo, have fun with the inevitable. Tease it and question it. Influence it through the ingenuity of your playfulness. Develop a relationship with it that allows you to be true to yourself even as you learn to love it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): My house isn't big enough to hold all my stuff, so I keep some of it at a local storage facility. My room there is No. 417. It's in the middle of a long hall lined with rooms that other people have rented for their junk. The sequence of numbered doors is odd; it goes 415 to 416 to 417 to 752 to 418 to 419 to 420. How did 752 get in there? It's a mystery - sort of like your life in the coming week, Libra. I predict that you'll soon experience a comparable interruption in the orderly flow of things. But that shouldn't be a problem for you as long as you don't worry about it. I suggest that you just glide through the seemingly out-of-place event, having faith that the regularly scheduled flow will return after a relatively brief blip.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): In 1964, U.S. President Lyndon Johnson declared an unconditional "war on poverty." It was an enlightened use of martial force - an unprecedented attempt to channel the macho might of the federal government into an onslaught of benevolence. Now I call on you to pull off a comparable trick. In the coming weeks, convince your inner warrior to turn away from all temptations to express rage and destruction. Reprogram him or her to fight wildly on behalf of beauty, truth, justice, and love.

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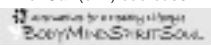
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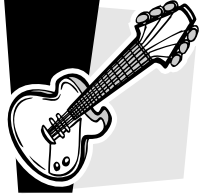
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BASSIST Austin band Darling Sinister seeks bassists. Be serious and ready to work. Studio time and show dates booked for January and February. John 512-787-8376 or darling_sinister@hotmail.com.

BASSIST looking for a laid back band who wants to play out. Inl: Sonic Youth, Husker Du, YLT, Pavement, MBV. pcormas@hotmail.com

BASSIST needed for live hip hop group. be laid back, willing to take direction. Some live shows, mainly studio work. 280-4612

BASSIST project rock band seeks Bassist 3x wk plus wknds. Yellowcard, SOTY, The Darkness, Incubus, Lost-prophets. chris 294-6651

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BASSIST Second guitarist needed for indie-type-rock band. Hum, Sparta, SDRE etc. Mp3's and info at www.minutestoburn.com. todd@minutestoburn.com.

BASSIST sought to build the foundation with me. Looking for Meshell Ndegeocello and Stuart Zender wrapped into one. R&B Neo-Soul. D-Angelo, Jamiroquai. Trick. 970.6237 ptrick29@yahoo.com

BASSIST Southern influenced, blues based rock and roll, (zep, crowses, gov't mule, etc.) gig regularly.(Lucky Lounge, Antone's) Rob @ rwmiller78@hotmail.com

BASSIST Teenage bassist needed for rock/metal band located in SW Austin. Original instruments and some cover songs. See our website for more details: www.arvonia.net/~rubberband. Contact Justin at (512) 965-0338.

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DRUMMER Drummer seeks serious/estb band. Infl: God-smack, Sevendust, Motley Crue, Van Halen, Pantera. Studio/stage exp. I've played w/Skynyrd, Jessica Simpson, Ludacris, Unloco, Lokey 254-541-5092 or johnboy1284@hotmail.com

DRUMMER GLBT drummer wanted if you love: ringer, peter chris, bunny walter, chad smith, dj bonebreak, & graham lejar... call the Websters @ 447.4372

DRUMMER Hard-rock band Shades of Autumn seeks drummer. Practice 3x/week, has practice space, complex progressions, odd beats. contact joe 512-300-8001, madhatterq@yahoo.com

DRUMMER Heavy Austin band "bud" needs a drummer!! Are you the guy? Call Chris at 512-576-2485.

DRUMMER Jazzy, Psychedelic, Rock-n-Roll band needs a drummer. www.TheEarthTonePlayers.com

DRUMMER looking to form band of M&F musicians to do a few covers and mostly origis. Pixies, Vercusa Salt, Pretenders, 60s 70s 80s Garage/Punk. No hired guns or drunks. Must have Vintage Equipment. Jamie, 293-3493 Johnhynewen...@excite.com

DRUMMER Metal band gig ready w/pro equip. looking for versatile drummer capable of many styles. Double kick pedal a must. call 512-663-6548 or 512-282-9516 metal_head12003@yahoo.com

DRUMMER Needed for new project. Guitarist for Southern Gun Culture is assembling a new heavy ROCK band and needs a hard hitting, groove-oriented, minimalist drummer. Experience, pro gear and pro attitude a must!! Danny 837-8553

DRUMMER New to Austin. Drummer looking for band. I will play anything that grooves. I have a demo and have tons of experience. Pro experience. Call Paul (210) 392-7286 paulherrera@austin.rr.com

DRUMMER needed, orig rock band seek drummer. Heavy hitter. must be available to play any night. practice in N. Austin, practice space has a drum set for you to use at practice. call Jim - 512-689-2525

DRUMMER Needed for an original trio band. Styles: R&B, Rock. Call Kazki 453-2226.

DRUMMER Replacement Drummer needed for local Ska/Rock band. Be a better bandmate than your 708 drummer. 512-799-7708.

DRUMMER NEEDED! South Austin metal band need drummer. Transportation, double pedal, dedication a must. Ready to gig. No drama here. Call Jimmy at 292-9821 txbassplayer31@juno.com

DRUMMER needed for new project. Guitarist for Southern Gun Culture forming a new heavy ROCK band. Need a hard-hitting, groove-oriented drummer. Experience, pro gear and pro attitude a must! Danny 837-8553.

DRUMMER Pro Drummer w/ 10 yrs Live/Studio exp. Seeking pro minded band. Infl: Mudvayne, tool, taproot, sevendust, etc. Have tama iron cobra double kick and pro tama kit w/rack and sample/loop/efx. 254-699-1388 bus line. illiswillis@yahoo.com

DRUMMER Rock band needs drummer. Please be somewhat experienced. Infl. SocialAD, DeadBos, Hanoi-rocks, Dragons Pat 689-7969

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GUITAR Ld guitarist w/originals seeking Christian band/ musicians into Roots-Rock ala Jayhawks, Band, Eagles, Poco, Byrds, etc. Collaborate, solidify tunes, play out, evangelize. I don't have rehearsal place, PA - do/u? chops4god@yahoo.com

GUITAR need lead guitar player for hard hitting metal band have practice space and studio time lined up 18-30 please 512-238-7718 no fakes or drugs

GUITAR New Country Music Artist w/record deal. Need Steel Player Now!.. Gigs in Texas now. Be team player/ band member, no hired guns. Must practice, willing to travel and have no attitude. 361-779-0338 or 956-454-3889, mstevens1@stx.rr.com

GUITAR pro guitarist avail., prefer modern intelligent pop, infl. finn, amos, yorn, etc...pros or supremely talented others who are ready play only. philipmac@hotmail.com

GUITAR/DRUMS Vocalist and bassist seeking guitarists and drummer 4 heavy rock band. influences include: Deftones, Sevendust, Rage, Incubus. 512-496-8287

GUITAR/VOX seeking voice, good guitar. Looking for serious musicians or band dedicated to the music, not the idea. Rock. No top 40. no nashville. no rap. no nu..I am experienced. This is all I do! So if you ain't real don't bother me! apowel@gvyc.com

GUITAR/VOX seeking musicians to form aggressive metal band/Cedar Park area. Permanent or jam sessions. Infl. Metallica, Judas Priest, Slayer, Death. Call Chris at 512 260 5982, between Noon and 3pm or after 9pm

GUITAR/VOX needed. SLIDER is looking for a ROCK STAR performer with strong vocal harmonies, pro gear and dedication. Be tour ready. sliderHQ1@aol.com www.sliderHQ.com 903-263-9547

GUITARIST Looking for an atmospheric guitarist (edge-like w/ some vox ability to play in an indie pop rock band that tours. Have real connections. email your creds and info to atmosphereguitar@yahoo.com

GUITARIST Lead player would like to join or form band. Age 24. Been playing 16 yrs. Good Equip. 311, The Used, Thrive, Beatles. Heavy but tasteful. Music that brings gigs. 799-8004

GUITARIST Vocalist/songwriter seeking guitarist/ songwriter to collaborate with. Pro attitude, chops, and open minded a must. Influences include, but not limited to STP,janes addiction, beatles,blain meldon,U2,etc. Call SCOTT (422-3866)

GUITARIST Lead Guitar needed. Pickle Tink www.pickletink.com Giggng band. Must have or learn chops to estb'd song list. 70's and 80's classic rock and roll covers. Beth 512-259-2171 or 512-748-3333 or Carlos at 759-2776

GUITARIST exprd 22 y.o. electric/acoustic guitarist looking to play. lots of music and ideas. infl: radiohead, mars volta, zeppelin, tortoise, wilco, floyd, police, etc. open and versatile. good gear/attitude. colin. 632-4517. csagle7@hotmail.com.

GUITARIST serious project with touring opportunities and major label interest, seeking professional lead/rhythm gtr. player. style: APC, Alice in Chains, Filter, chevelle. gear and work ethic are essential. contact: guitar_audition@yahoo.com

GUITARIST I'm a guitarist Interested in starting a blues band to jam and play gigs for fun. I like all kinds of blues and other kinds of music. Seeking laidback musicians who want to have fun. aaronsmith@alumni.utexas.net

GUITARIST To join metal band. Pro attitude/equip. infl: the red chord, blood has been shed, between the buried and me, etc. tim @ lespaul11eleven@sbcglobal.net for details

GUITARIST looking to form an experimental alt-rock band. In early 20's and serious. Influences include The Mars Volta, At The Drive-in,Incubus, and APC. mattkaemmerling@yahoo.com

GUITARIST Seeking experienced atmosphere lead guitarist who listens well and adds right part. Radiohead, Tim Reynolds www.caldwellshine.com, caldwelldwellshine@yahoo.com

GUITARIST Needed to help build a baby Mothership so we can quit our day jobs and have fun making a living. Old Soul, Funk, JB/Artha/Sly/Green/Clinton, other classics. funkentelecty@yahoo.com

GUITARIST Experienced bassist/singer/songwriter / drummer , looking for estb guitarist(s) who can shred . Les Paul /Strat / Marshall sound. No beginners . stieved1213@yahoo.com

GUITARIST 21 year old trippy guitarist in Austin looking to start or join band; infl: APC, Deftones, Placebo. institutional_blue@yahoo.com

GUITARIST Lead/rhythm guitarist seeks oldschool thrash or heavy metal band. Into Kreator, Metallica, Iron Maiden, Judas Priest, Death, anything metal. 989-1578

GUITARIST 17 year old guitarist looking for a hardcore band or other musicians. preferably christian. influences: norma jean, society's finest, ect. 365-1605

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KEYBOARD Austin based heavy-prog metal Meyvn looking for Monster Keyboard player with attitude. MP3's at www.meyvn.net Gigs, studio waiting. drew@meyvn.net

KEYBOARD Keyboard player need for variety A to Z cover band. Must rehearse. 873-7287

KEYBOARD player needed for original project. keithjmcmanus@yahoo.com

KEYBOARD Seeking established working country band. Willing to travel and available for full-time. (254) 498-0495 or E-mail: skbe01@aol.com

KEYBOARD wanted to fill out last slot in Jam, jazz, funk group. Must be experienced, creative and able to improv. and collaborate. Call if dedicated. 254-947-3616

KEYBOARDS avail. 42 y/o. Downside: sub-genius, smoker, no car. Upside: also 2nd vox or guitar. Between YES and KISS. Want 2 shows a mo. Hyde Park. 452-0111 tomgilbreth@sbcglobal.net

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MUSICIANS Vocalist seeks lead rhythm, bass guitarist, and drummer to form new cover band. 70s, 80s, 90s music. Infl: Eagles, Doobie Bros., Guns n'Roses, Black Crowes. No games, no attitudes, no drugs. Serious only: John- 512-773-8743

MUSICIANS Singer/songwriter seeking pro lead guitarist, drums, keys to play shows. I have a CD. must be able to learn songs by ear, practice 2x week. Serious only. buckley, cold-play,radiohead. rusted root, Mad season. 512.569.7412

MUSICIANS Seeking singer songwriter seeks blues enthusiasts to perform around town. All styles welcome but prefer dirty and loud. Call Jake at 791-1931

MUSICIANS Violin/guitar, songwriter (50) needs guitars and/or vocal accompanist for edgy original acoustic rock. sflister@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Bassist with versatile style,gear and material needs others for serious project. Ability to play and create own parts a must. Infl. Incubus, Sevendust, Taproot, LP, RATM, etc. tmamone@austin.rr.com. Tommy

MUSICIANS Belly dance troupe seeks musicians. Must be able to play on weekends, be reliable, enjoy Renn Faires and other festivals, but most of all, must be able to play middle eastern music and be fun loving. typsy_gypsys@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Need crisp/clean metal guitarist(s) and bass for fictional project. No desperados/doom-n-gloomers without knowing element of sound. 512-565-2551

MUSICIANS Singer/songwriter plays four instruments & seeks original band grounded in classic rock, grunge & blues. Be drug free & over 25 misha@todaystomsawyer.net

MUSICIANS needed for new rock band. Check out www.brownsoundjive.com for info and audio. Call 586-2681 or email: taller_crowe@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS resourceful keyboardist seeking to form 3/4 piece group!! I do not do covertness!! All original idea band... call or e-mail. 512-259-6804 vaelan1@aol.com

MUSICIANS Life-long project seeks band members for live performance aspect of a multi-dimensional experience. Smashing Pumpkins meets Radiohead. Start small, think big. effector13@hotmail.com

MUSICIANS bass and guitar/noise needed for original ambient, alternative sound. Complex, accessible, engaging beautiful music. Shades of dark and light. Odd times, chords. Chris 971-1199 FP2000H@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Experienced female lead vocalist seeks talented musicians to start soul, old school style r&b band. Leave msg 736-9779.

MUSICIANS vocalist looking to start a punk band. influences include the dead kenedys, DESCENDENTS, face to face, the damned. contact calvin @ 219.1459

MUSICIANS Looking to start Indie Rock/Pop band. Infl: Pixies, Strokes, VU, Pavement, Libertines, Clash. I am Rene(Guitar) 228-6707. Only people serious/crazy about music should call.

MUSICIANS vocalist looking to start/join band extremely serious NO FLAKES metal melodic hardcore death metal mix scream sing slipknot, canderia call tree 512-300-9764

MUSICIANS Seeking "EXPERIENCED (10 years+), TALENTED & POSITIVE" Singer/songwriters, guitarists, keys, bass U2, Radiohead, Coldplay, The Verve, Placebo, Eno sscholwinski@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Pinback, q and not u, pedro the lion, sre, velvet teen, etc. we're looking mostly for a drummer or if infl. match. min 5 years exp, pro equip, vocals a +. email: newaustinband@yahoo.com

MUSICIANS Female Rock n Roll vocalist/songwriter seeks dedicated musicians to start band from ground up. All instruments and backgrounds welcome. sixfootprincess@yahoo.com

PEDAL STEEL Expd Nashville Pedal Steel player seeks working bands. Toured and recorded live album with Gram Parsons & EmmyLou Harris. Toured and recorded with Joe Sun and several Opry artists. Google: NEIL FLANZ 512-383-0842

PEDAL STEEL Based in Beaumont, TX. Played steel and road managed National Nashville act on Major Label. Interested in original Texas Country music. Pro-minded. Jim West 409-892-4555

PERCUSSION At Liberty: Congas, Bongos, Dumbek, more, Multilingual vocals. Great front man or back-up vocals. 20+ years prof expr. Seeking: World Beat group, join or form. Have PA, RV, will travel. Miles: 929-3333

PRODUCER Looking for talented singer/songwriters (all-styles) in need of a product to shop themselves to labels, management, club owners, or potential band mates. I can help you with your dream. Visit: www.jbsproductions.net or call 512-238-0612

VOCALIST Blues, Jazz, Rock singer with chops looking to join or form a show band. Only experienced musicians need call. All players needed. Paula 512-26-2985 Paulahaines@sbcglobal.net

VOCALIST Female vocalist looking for band. I sing blues and R&B and have deep roots in gospel. Strong, loud vocals and good stage presence. I've been singing all my life and have lots of experience. srgk777@yahoo.com.

VOCALIST Prof Female Rock n Roll Vocalist from Europe, looking for prof line up. Style: Velvet Revolver,Marilyn Manson, AudioSlave etc... No Amateurs or beginners. Roxyroxx@sverizon.net or 254-681-1284

VOCALIST Pro attitude, Studio and Stage experience. Looking for the right band with right attitude that's heavy but yet commercial. Call 833-0256

VOCALIST seeking musicians into nick cave, iggy pop, tom waits, and others. Want to start or join a band that can be raucous yet melow out.To be able to go to oppsite extremes. Any instruments. Brandon 567-9108

VOCALIST sought who can play bass. We consist of piano/keys, drums, guitar, and violin. Inf. Crime and the City Solution, Angels of Light, Death in June, early P.I.L., Dirty Three, tideofthempaler@hotmail.com

VOCALIST Working Variety band needs dedicated adult pro vocalist. Male(tenor)/Female with range and control. Instrument a plus. 873-7287

VOCALS Needed... All right where are you guys? If there are any singers who have REAL skills, I need to here from you ASAP. I've been looking for real skills, and found only CRAP. This is your shot. 512-787-3136 any-time.

VOCALS Unique, no imitations, male singer needed. Will consider the right female singer. Swans, Pink Dots, Mogwai. bunchofshit2000@yahoo.com

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personals

a shot in the dark

11/19 THE DONNAS. Sam, you "licked your bic" for me all night long. I felt "the heat", did you? Call Kelly. ☎4873

TRAVIS N: I ran in to you at Momo's, S. Austin Jug band show. Got your number but somehow managed to not save it in my cell phone! Please call! ☎4835

11/06 FOUNDATION- ALEC: Coors Light and Jager drinker. Brunette bartender took care of your tab all night, but should've asked for your number. P.S. love the mohawk. ☎4832

SUNDAY 11/28. YOU slowed down to let me cross S. Congress. I met again a few minutes later and I thanked you. Were you flirting back? ☎4833

11/23 -ZTEJAS. YOU: Really cute girl with large group. Me-Black shirt with big group. Couldn't take my eyes off you. Wish I'd gotten your number! ☎4834

11/26, SO THE statement "goofy hats" is not a negative thing. Really enjoyed our conversation. Please contact me if you would like to meet again. - Mary (not the virgin) ☎4839

JIM: DJ AT wedding about a week or so ago, you were 'my hero' while we were cleaning up. Me? ""At Last" woman. Call me? ☎4875

CENTRAL LIBRARY, AFTERNOON, 11/27/04. Guy next to me typing email, left on your bike. Should have asked if you wanted a ride in my truck. Another chance? ☎4878

CRATE & BARREL, evening 11/21. You were gorgeous: blonde ponytail, skirt, tennis shoes. Me: black jacket, blonde hair, blue eyes, sitting. Our eyes met several times. Coffee sometime? ☎4827

THURSDAY (THE 11TH?), Opal Divine's, upstairs patio - you showed up with friends. I keep seeing you around and you keep looking pleasantly surprised. Want to actually talk to me? ☎4829

11/18 TRUDY'S SOUTH. You: beautiful Hispanic girl wearing white sleeveless sweater, sitting with large group. Me: plaid shirt, shorts, sitting in bar. Give me another chance to introduce myself. ☎4830

11/18 BONGOS. YOU: long hair, handed me a rose as I left the club. Me-tall, black dress, and flattered. We should have danced. Como te llamas? ☎4826

11/04 YOU TURNED me on...to this section. We discussed movies. I promised to take you to baseball game. You came back for your credit card. Were you flirting? ☎4821

BOOBOOKKITTY, WHERE DID you go? We met 2 years ago and I would love to find you again. Maybe a bottle of wine or a racecar movie? ☎4823

11/14 ORNETTE COLEMAN show. You were outside after show and dropped your hair clip. Guy in suit (me) picked it up for you. How about a drink and more Jazz? ☎4812

SINATIONS HALLOWEEN PARTY. Me: covered in pumpkin pie, winded from wrestling. You: with flaming genitalia. Can I ignite your fire? ☎4813

OLTORF HEB 11/16: We shared a hug by the peanut butter and jelly at midnight...zzzzing! You made my day. Call me. ☎4814

1/15 HEB 2222620. You: gorgeous man in red l/s shirt. Me: Mom with 3 girls. Our eyes met, you said hello, I panicked. Please call me! ☎4815

11/5, NOODLEISM. YOU: cute pony-tail blonde with glasses by yourself. Me: yellow sweater. You thought I was catching flies...I was really trying to catch your attention. More noodles? ☎4756

11/7/04 GREENBELT. READING in the sun about potato farms with your collie via Spyglass. Me: lost biker carrying bike through the creek. Too lost to ask your number. Call ☎4793

SWEET KANDY, I have your shirt. If you want it back find a way to get in touch. Call ☎4819

NOVEMBER 12TH, BEERLAND. You: up front wearing a dark blue stocking cap and shaking what your mama gave you! Cutest boy I saw all night... Call ☎4803

10/29 DOUG, SOCO Cafe. Waited on me during Friday brunch. Ran into you that night at Trophy's. Would like to run into you again. Call ☎4805

WOMAN. SHIRT READ-sit next 2 me you fine fella (tall, blonde, beautiful). Reading in Whole Foods. Me: blue eyes, smiled when I was in line adjacent you. Call me ☎4755

SPEAKEASY, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 11th. Theresa? Geeze, I wish I had at least left you my email or something. Call ☎4806

AARON FROM DOUBLE Daves. You are so hot and I can't stop thinking about you. This sexy brunette is looking for you. Please call! ☎4808

TACO CABANA MLK 11/12. You: Blond wearing beanie chatting with friends. Me: Guy wearing Deftones beanie trying not to be too obvious. Can I return that beautiful smile sometime? ☎4809

11/14: BURGER KING Slaughter/Manchaca. Guy with red cap, tat on right wrist. drove Dodge Intrepid, were you following me? I liked it! Let's play cat and mouse sometime... ☎4810

STUNNING CELTIC REDHEAD gal in boots, sitting alone, Magnolia Saturday 11/6. Me: thinning hair and glasses conversing with a friend. Our eyes met. Would love to talk. ☎4796

YOU: BEAUTIFUL BLONDE, blue warmups getting basket at HEB Burnet/2222 on 11/6 around 10am. Me: Redhead in that line, stunned by your beauty, would love to meet you! ☎4797

SPILL NOVEMBER 6TH. Matt? You were 27? NO WAY! Me-"Friend" of girl you worked with at County Line. Your eyes were so sexy. Call me.. ☎4798

5 ACRES DRIPPING Springs. You were looking for property, but got a wrong number. I realized it was you after I hung up; I've been looking since. ("Lynn" was close.) Call ☎4754

ME: DARKO, YOU Frank. Made my Halloween. I'd love a copy of the pic your lady friend took. Call ☎4757

J.P. JAVA, THURSDAY 11-4. You: engaging, entered the back room B/C you and your laptop were cold. Me, red head in oversized chair next to you, wishing you'd have left with me. Still a chance? ☎4753

MICHELLE THE CELLIST met Whole Foods North. I looked familiar. Call ☎4745

MIKE: WE MET at Breckenridge E.R. on the 27th. You helped a little old lady across the street. You offered, I was not feeling well. Hug helped. Try again? ☎4751

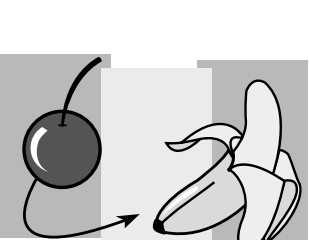
JOVITA'S ELECTION NIGHT. You-beautiful blond dressed in black with parents(?). Me- mature Hispanic gentleman. You handed me your menu. Much meaningful eye contact. Call. I want to return kindness. ☎4752

CONGRESS RIVERSIDE CHEVRON, 11/3, 8 am. You: brown/brown, blue shirt, silver 4runner. Me: brown/brown, black shirt, BMW. Exchanged glances, too early to flirt. ☎4744

HEB ON OLTORF, Election day. You were in front of me in line and you bought 3 bottles of pink champagne. Nice lips! ☎4746

THERESA, SOCIAL WORKER, met you at DeVille, election night 11/2. You said I was too judgmental, but ran away before I could explain my pro-Terry agenda. ☎4747

JULIA, ASPIRING EDITOR with a scarf to offer. me, cold and caught up in your gaze. Hope we run into each other again. You were enchanting. ☎4749



ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS, LONG haired, green eyed blonde, 5'7", 125, vivacious, classy and elegant. Seeking handsome, fit SWM, drug/disease free, 44-56. Must be financially and emotionally secure. ☎4831

* personals **1.800.284.0865**

\$1.99/min. **1.900.226.0242**

* variations **1.888.829.9137**

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* information **512.454.5768**

* web **austinchronicle.com/personals**

DATE MY SISTER! She's 30, beautiful, brown/hazel, voluptuous (not fat) Smart, independent, successful. Movies, dancing, travel, sporting events, etc. Prefer Christian, genuine, nice guy. No wackos please. ☎4876

SWF, 35, 5'7", 125. Attractive, fun, easy going. I like good films, restaurants, music, Hyde Park. Seeking SWM, 30-50, to share rainy days and lots of laughs. ☎4817

DWF 39, PRETTY, petite, professionally employed, physically fit. Seeking single dad, 35-45, whose tired of spending all his free time alone! ☎4750

KEEP AUSTIN WEIRD. Vegetables, Jesus, KGSR. Best friends, Green Party politics, Boca burgers. Attractive blonde woman, trim, 48 seeking cute, calm male over 40. ☎4818

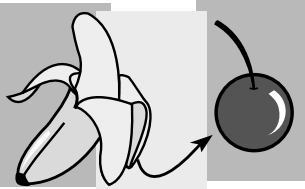
CHRISTIAN WF AVAILABLE for soul-mate: Christian WM, non smoking. I'm a stormy blonde with big blue eyes, 48, attractive, eclectic, out there...like the truth. ☎4799

TALL, THIN, HEALTHY, active. Barely over 50. Love music, dancing, travel, nature, the arts. Seeking intelligence, loyalty, humor and appreciation of the finest in Austin. Together we understand that life is perfect when it's shared with someone special. ☎4800

ARE YOU PASSIONATE about the outdoors? Love books and music? SWF, 42, 5'10", with proportionate full figure seeking professional, positive, thoughtful man 35-45 to explore nature, ideas, and harmony. ☎4790

HAZEL EYES, LARGE, affectionate 50ish moonchild, non-smoker, social drinker. You love music and your independence, a free thinker with a warm smile, maybe brown eyes. ☎4748

YOU: COUNTRY BOY. Me: nature woman. You live on any acreage in Hays/Travis area. Are environmental/organic (cologne/smoke free). I'm: very artistic, attractive, financially secure, enjoyable, kind, love country life! 40/50 ok. ☎4743



180LB LEO, DOMESTICATED, handsome, seeks nice looking feline to enjoy my lakeside den with. ☎4879

SWM, 56, 6'2", 170, non-smoker, down to earth, affectionate, mild herpes, seeks SWF with or without, for relationship. Slender or heavy bottomed welcomed. Shy, quiet, a plus. Call me. ☎4837

SEARCHING FOR HONEST, interesting, kind F, 45-55, who views life optimistically and learned from life experience. How about dinner, movies, walks in the park with HIM over 55. ☎4836

HELP! LIKE A rolling stone, I can't get no satisfaction. I'm so lonesome I could cry. What I'd say: A change is gonna come. I want to hold your hand. ☎4838

SWM, LATE 30S seeks SWF, 23-40, curvy, slender but heavier bottom, for coffee, failed Atkins diet, cheesecake, movies, music, art, no drugs or alcohol, friends. ☎4874

SEEKING FEMALE FOR serious relationship, fun loving, easy going, and not willing to be herself at all times. Call me. ☎4791

LOOKING FOR SOMEONE who loves to have fun, enjoys travel, great outdoors, new experiences? Mid 40s, youthful, attractive man, recently visited Spain/Italy, would enjoy talking to/emailing you. ☎4828

SOUTH AUSTIN CONNOISSEUR seeks lady to enjoy the finer things. SWM, non smoker, 52, 6ft, 225 lbs, dark hair and eyes, handsome, humorous, enjoys dining, dancing, laughing and having fun. ☎4824

CREATIVE MALE SOUL, 44, seeks similar minded female soul. Let's mind talk, explore, play, and create whatever intrigues us. Platonic/non-platonic...lady fate and chemistry decides. Sensuality a big plus. ☎4811

ONE DAY AT a time. Handsome SHM determined to live good and prosper seeks pretty female for friendship and companionship. Possibly relationship. ☎9669

We're looking for Austin's most creative personal ad. No "walks on the beach," no "listening to music," no "enjoys dining out." Show us what you're made of. Keep it real, keep it local, and most of all, keep it interesting. And, just to make it easier, if you write "Best Ad Wins" at the top of your ad, we'll give you 50 free words for four weeks, absolutely free. If you submit the best ad, **you'll win a \$100 gift certificate to one of Austin's premier day spas, free yoga lessons, tickets to Ballet Austin, and a dinner for two at a great Austin restaurant.** Don't wait! Your ad must be received by **5pm Friday, December 19** to be eligible to win.

Best Ad Wins!



the Luv Doc

Project Transitions' Holiday Swing
Saturday, Dec. 4 • Dell Jewish Community
Campus • 7300 Hart Ln.
www.projecttransitions.org

Questions? Suggestions?

email: luvdoc@austinchronicle.com

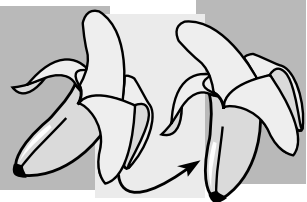
Like it or not, the holiday season officially began at around 6am the day after Thanksgiving – that being the wee hour when all the Wal-Marts, Targets, Kmarts, and whatnots decided to open their doors on the largest shopping day of the year. No doubt countless caffeine-cranked rubes were there even earlier: oily noses smudged against the windows, fogging up the glass with Starbucks breath in eager anticipation of "special holiday pricing." Strange that not even the promise of eternal salvation and a one-way ticket to meet the reason for the season can roll most folks out of bed before ten on a Sunday, but knock a few nickels off a Game Boy and they're up before the rooster crows. Nonetheless, regardless of their staggering incongruities, the holidays are here – maybe just not for you. Maybe only true Christian soldiers can summon the courage to stifle their disgust, disbelief, and depression at the prospect of three more weeks of unrelenting yuletide schmaltz. Maybe we are being tested. No, *definitely* we are being tested. Any gauntlet that involves the smell of Karmelkorn, flashing holiday-themed Bobby Brooks sweaters, and the dulcimer strains of Burl Ives is clearly designed to separate the wheat from the chaff, spiritually speaking. Maybe surviving the holidays without developing an eye twitch is a modern-day biblical test of patience, forgiveness, and charity. Maybe, despite all of the fuss and distraction, you need to keep your eye on the ball. This Saturday that ball is Project Transitions' Holiday Swing, a yearly fundraiser for people living with HIV/AIDS. One of the most charming aspects of the Holidays is the profusion of events where you can get dressed up, liquored up, and shaken down for a good cause. PT's Holiday Swing is one of the best – for both the charity and the celebration. This year's Swing features big-band dancing with the Sentimental Journey Orchestra, heavy hors d'oeuvres, and a wicked, huge silent auction where you can design your own "special holiday pricing."

***** IS currently accepting applications for girlfriend. You must be highly tolerant of musicians, etc. I'm 52, long white hair/beard, blue eyes, 225 lbs., 'good cookin' and good lookin'! #4802

HAPPY, HEALTHY, ADVENTUROUS M, 55, 5'7". Veggie, rock n' roller, cooking, diving, skiing, KGSR type. Seeking lady with similar interests for some fun and friendship. #4816

SWM, 34, I'M open-minded, intelligent, laid-back yet passionate. Love nature, the surreal, music, sensuality, and irony. Seeking someone smart with a sense of humor, eclectic and of like mind. #4795

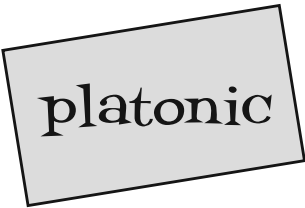
SEEKING NORMAL WOMAN. I don't expect a reply. #4801



GBM, 6', 184 black/brown, attractive. Told I do have a nice smile. Non drinker/smoker looking for WM or HM to start out as friends that may lead to more. Serious reply only. #4822

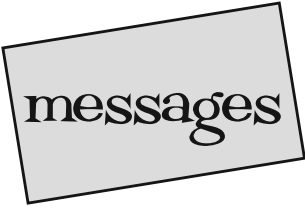
GHM, 37, SEEKING H/W male, 30-45, for friendship and possibly more. Please, be drug / disease free. Effeminate types and smokers need not respond. #4804

SHM, 36, 5'5". Looking for 18-30 year old W/H male with a good personality, good humor, fun person for friendship or more. #4807



ATTRACTIVE, INTELLIGENT, OUTGOING female seeks dance partner. #4825

SEEKING MALE OR female travel companion to see Marfa lights. #4794



BLONDIE, I MISS you but I still haven't forgiven you.

YOUR SOUL KNOWS the ultimate truth, love is always enough. Be brave, go for it!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LESLIE. I'll always believe you were for real. Love always

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, LUCAS Koko love and Sid

ALWAYS WITH SOME other girl... still I'm biding my time.

PONEY, YOU ARE my sun & moon.

BLACK CAT JUSTIN: I give as good as I get. Your Sometimes

OSCAR! I WANT to see artwork and more Sylvia. Call Geoff

FOUR GREEN SHOES? World, prepare for rainbows of beautiful accidents.

YOU HAVE PERFORMED the courtship ritual in the opposite direction.

FEELINGS, INSTINCTS, NEVER in doubt; UncerTainties legal. Want 2Bw/you. PlsReconsider?

S-HAPPY BIRTHDAY on the 6th.Hope you are well.

LIFE IS WHAT you make it. -Leo

STILL LOVE ALL of you - guess it doesn't matter - dNA

ANDREW J., YOU never called. Still interested? Yes/no? -Paintergirl

LOGAN! IF YOU got the breakfast tacos, I got the booty!

WHO RAN AWAY at the Pixies?

KITTY, SURPRISE! BOO

KLIFF, NO MATTER which way we are, we fit. -Bunny

THANKS TO THE kindness..AND, his opinion does matter! Bev

BEV- YOU DESERVE nothing less than special. Good Luck! akame

RYAN, YOU CAN invade my personal space anytime. Martinis?

CC- THOUGHT OUR love was real, guess not. -Hollywood

QUESTION FOR LEO: is this a mistake? What about fate?

CAVORITE, BE MY penguin, join me on my iceberg! -Bookat

LIL' MISS HOT Stuph, miss the way you taste! Love ya, Stoney

BABY GIRL! YOU still take my breath away! Love, Boo

MICHAEL, I'M TRYING to, but I don't get you. Allison

YOU CAN'T TELL me it's over, over your shoulder.

CHRIS, I AM thankful for the beautiful love we shared.

FINNEY, WHEN YOU'RE reading this you're in here in heaven.

CHO- HOPE YOU had a Happy Halloween...Griffin

MCM- YOU'RE RIGHT, you really are a selfish jerk.

FROM AUSTIN TO Big Bend, have a Happy Thanksgiving!

GP - STILL IN the same old trade of positivity!

placing a personals or variations ad *****

Placing an *Austin Chronicle* personal ad is fun and simple! You can submit a free 30 word personal ad (10 words free for "Messages" ads) Monday through Friday the following ways: **BY FAX:** 458-6910 • **ON THE WEB:** austinchronicle.com/personals/form.html • **if all else fails: BY PHONE:** 454-5765 x137 • **IN PERSON:** 4000 N. IH-35 **REQUIRED INFO:** name, address, phone number (all ads may be edited for content). One ad at a time. Instructions on how to retrieve messages will be sent to you by mail. *We reserve the right to refuse any ad for any reason.*

***** responding to personals ads

Responding to an ad by phone: To listen and respond to *Austin Chronicle* Personal ads, call **1-800-284-0865** (Visa, MC, AmEx) or **1-900-226-0242** (\$1.99/minute, 18+). You will have the opportunity to browse through ads by category or to respond to specific ads using the four digit voice-mail box number that follows each ad. Responding to an ad with Mail Forwarding: Write the five digit Mail Forwarding Number in the center of a regular envelope and then write the following address beneath it: **P.O. Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765**. Ads with mail forwarding have a five digit number and this symbol:

JOHN, IF YOU drunk dial, leave drunk message. JM

GEMINI: I MISS you more than you could ever know. Love, Leo.

J'SUIS VOUS VOULEZ, bon groupie mon ami, Merci pour rien.-m.

TO MY BABY- I love you gobs. -B

YOU: CUTE ASIAN boy in my animation class. Me: guess.

STUPID- I WAS there when no one else was.

SOMETIMES LOVE JUST isn't enough. My SOUL wishes it were.

ALL I'M SAYING, it takes a lot to love you.

CORRINE G., YES, I WILL be your boyfriend! Love, Anthony

KIWI, ILU 4EVER. I need you here, baby

variations

HISPANIC BIM, 46, looking for 1 or 2 top guys to enjoy erotic get togethers. I'm a definite bottom and submissive. Prefer muscular and over 5'6". #9676

SWF, 47, 5'2", proportionate. Seeks long-term D/s relationship with loving and experienced dominant male 45-55. Must be intelligent, fun, witty, professional. Single only! #9682

WORKING MAN'S SPECIAL. Private attention for the masculine man by mature BiWM. Discreet, special requests. #9689

CALLING ALL PROFESSIONAL Men! Young, sexy, mature transsexual seeking serious dating, possibly more. Drug, disease-free, well kept, classy, taste of chocolate that will last 4ever! #9668

DRESS ME UP, I am a masculine man, 29, tall and fit, who likes to be dressed up with make up. Discreet fetishes only. #9623

BIWM, 30, 145 lbs., attractive, naturally smooth, muscular, clean cut. Seeks smooth guys for nude encounters. Please be fit and clean cut, 20-30. Leave e-mail address. #9685

NEXT YEAR, LAYING together, sharing the fun and intimacy we are experiencing. Looking for a discreet relationship, where our mutual need for an exciting, fulfilling sexual partner is met. #9680

SWM, VERY CUTE, 67", athletic, graduate degree, back in school, future M.D. I am looking for a single mother for an intimate relationship. Blonde hair, blue eyes, proportionate..please respond! #9677

ATTRACTIVE MARRIED FEMALE seeks attractive married/single male for discreet evening pleasures. Only high class, attractive men between 23-45 need to reply. #9675

SWM MID 20'S seeks 35-50 something female for talks and more. You decide how far it goes. BBW ok, please be open minded and fun. No strings attached. #9672

WANTED: RETIRED OR retiring cops, special agents, sheriffs, marshalls and other law enforcement workers with integrity for discreet friendship. Non smoking/drinking, single or divorced preferred. I'm a young retiree from government sales service. #9687

BIWM, 28, SEEKINGgay/bi singles/couples for fun with video camera. Must have private place and slim build. Seeking gay couple, open to ideas. Leave email address. #9673

THREESOME SEEKS FOURTH. 2 Very attractive, sexy, sophisticated, conversational, interesting, accomplishing, university women, 20's, seek another mature, refined, successful, straight gentleman, 30's-40's. Healthy, fit, trustworthy, for friendship and fantasy. Nice, discreet, and serious only. #9681

COED SEEKS GENTLEMAN. Must be handsome, refined, successful, professional 30's-40's, proportionate, healthy, considerate. Fantasy exploration with SWF, 20's, 5'4", 125, redhead, attractive, intelligent, sophisticated, imaginative. Some daytime availability required. #9624

COUPLES: CONSIDERING A threesome? If you're easy-going, like to laugh, attractive, youngish and looking for same in a guy, let's meet for a drink! Must be clean. #9683

SUBMISSIVE SWM LOOKING to explore service to a mistress. Beginner or experienced. Let me please you any day of the week. #9619

IN SEARCH OF gay sugardaddy who is between 33-46 years old, Hispanic/White. Enjoys going out. No head games. #9621

HAIRY, HORNY BOTTOM, looking for hairy, hot, horny dominant male, 30-45. Tis the season. Ho! Ho! Ho! #9678

WELL ENDOWED MID 20s WM seeks attractive older lady for pleasure, laughs and cuddling. Fun, a little kinky, drug/disease free, in shape. I adore older ladies. #9692

MWM, 30s, IN shape, and open seeks same or similar 25-45. Looking for intermediate or long-term friend with benefits. Offering and expecting honesty and fulfilling companionship. #9627

WANTED: LOVER..TODAY! Over 38, healthy, adventurous, respectful, happy, really good in the sack and elsewhere. Love good music and food. I am same. All respected and enjoyed! #9688

CUDDLE PARTY? PSWM, 54, offers private cuddle party to women only. Relieve stress, provide relaxation. Your limits respected. Total privacy. Almost as good as a day spa! #9671

FRISKY FEMALE SEEKS unattached, handsome, generous gentlemen 25-40 for frolic, cuddle, and comfort. #9665

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NEVER DENIED GHM would like to be around for you. Me - Most attractive, creative, energetic fun-loving buddy-type. You- Handsome WM St8/Bi/Gay. Let's Talk! #9666

FOXIE'S 11-19 MIDNIGHT. "Gloria", you said you didn't like watching movies, but liked making movies. Ready? #9686

BEAUTIFUL REDHEAD AVAILABLE for an affluant gentleman with discriminating taste who loves to pamper. I am 5'5" 110lbs Size 2 and 27 years old. #9629

SWM, VERY ATTRACTIVE, 32. Fascinated with real-life forbidden seduction stories, fantasies. Seeking females 21-65. Let's talk. Love that wickedly delicious adrenaline rush that forbidden elicits. #9691

A MAN, 55, Healthy, fit, good mind and body; attractive, unencumbered, well endowed; enjoys sports, jazz, travel. Seeking male friend, 40-60, similar type for intimacy and quality time. #9620

DOMINANT, SANE MWM, attractive, straight, imaginative, 40's seeks height-weight proportionate submissive WF into role-playing, toys, bondage, spanking, etc. as powerful erotic tools. Friendship, discretion, trust important. #9679

VERY ATTRACTIVE BIWM, 35, seeking 3 attractive bi girls and 2 attractive bi guys for adult fun and games in luxury hotel suite. #9670

GENEROUS SEEKS HOTTIE. If you're a young, smart, sexy college or professional woman with a nice body, consider a mutually beneficial, discreet relationship with a mid-30's, handsome, successful man. #9628

SWM, 40, WELL endowed, disease free, in shape, wanting satisfaction from bi or gay males or couples. Open to just about anything. All calls returned. Call! #9684

ATTENTION YOUNG CDS! Would you like to have a daddy that understands your need to be feminine? I will make you my little girl. #9674

BLACK MALE SEEKING good guy for good times and fun. Nothing serious, but maybe. No race preference, but please be sincere. Let's play. #9746

PROFESSIONAL WM SEEKS pretty, young, Black or Hispanic female for a mutually beneficial relationship. All calls will be returned. #9630

CUTE BIF, POLYNESIAN, mid 20's, wishes to meet another beautiful Bif for b-day wish. You and my boyfriend serving me for my pleasure. Serious inquiries only. #9690

GENTLEMAN SEEKS COED, Grad Student. Escape campus relationship drama, enjoy no strings fun. Tall, handsome, intelligent, fit male, sense of humor, late 30's seeks attractive, fit, uninhibited, curious woman 22-30. #9693

CALLING ALL COUPLES. Boytoy wannabe willing to satisfy all requests but pain. Seeking clean, discreet, drug/disease free couples. Your wish is my command. 30's DWM is ready to please. #9622

VERY WELL ENDOWED BiM, married, 45, looking for male or couple for no strings stress relief. HIV/drug-disease free, in shape. You be too. #9667

BIBM, 34, ATTRACTIVE, well-endowed seeks shemale for wild adventures. #9626

SWM, 46, SEEKING affectionate, sexy, friendly, open minded ladies for casual dating and friendship. Bi or straight, single or married ok. Please call! #9618

listening and responding to variations ads *****

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Post-exposure Prevention

"Help! I engaged in high-risk sex last weekend, and now I'm really worried about HIV exposure. Is there anything I can do?"

This is a fairly common question. The short answer is "Yes." The longer answer is "Yes, but ..."

There is an HIV prevention technique called post-exposure prophylaxis, or PEP for persons who believe they have been exposed to HIV. PEP was developed for health care personnel potentially exposed through their work. However, two solid studies of individuals with probable exposure through risky sex or drug needle sharing demonstrate a high degree of effectiveness in preventing HIV in nonoccupational incidents, too.

PEP consists of 30 days of an anti-HIV "drug cocktail." The standard uses Combivir (AZT/zidovudine combined with 3TC/lamivudine) taken twice daily. Other combinations may be required if the source's resistance profile is known.

The biggest "but" with PEP is that it should be started within 72 hours of the incident. Another is that insurance is not likely to pay for PEP, so it will probably cost hundreds of dollars. Medication side-effects are likely, especially flu-like symptoms. This usually goes away after several weeks – about the time PEP is finished!

Of course, all this is better than having AIDS. Any doctor (or the Brackenridge emergency room) can prescribe PEP; the guidelines can be found at www.cdc.gov/epo/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00054952.htm. Excellent info about PEP can also be found at www.aidsinfo.net, fact sheet No. 156.

Major caveat: Someone knowledgeable should assist the individual in assessing the real level of exposure risk. Most callers I talk to are needlessly anxious; they typically do not have significant risk – but they don't know that. PEP must be taken very seriously and should never be prescribed routinely. But, yes, there is something that can be done.

– Sandy Bartlett, Community Information/Education Coordinator
AIDS Services of Austin

Have questions about HIV or AIDS? Call the ASA Info-Line at 458-AIDS or e-mail Sandy.Bartlett@ASAAustin.org

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